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PART 1 OF A 3-PART SERIES: METRO LOOKS AT THE NEW FRONTIER OF FRACKING — B.C. PAGES 16 & 17

Popcorn flick? We do shrimp scampi instead

In anticipation of the release of Chef, Metro offers a short history of foodie movies PAGE 21

Lewinsky sick of being silent victim

Former White House intern writes about affair, being perhaps the first scapegoat of the Internet era PAGE 12

Civilians set out to locate abducted girls

Family members show little faith in Nigerian military, cast doubt on their claims of being in hot pursuit PAGE 10

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

Another Ford in the mayor's seat

Calling all Doug addicts. Brother sits in the big chair — will he try to earn it?

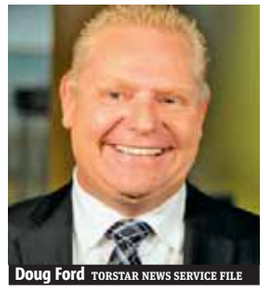
JESSICA SMITH CROSS
jessica.smithcross@metronews.ca

It appears Coun. Doug Ford isn't ruling out running for mayor in the event that his brother doesn't return to the campaign.

He answered only "no comment" to questions on the subject on Tuesday — but if he does run for mayor, he will have the support of Coun. Giorgio Mammoliti.

"I think Doug is seriously thinking about it and I hope he does," Mammoliti told CP24.

Doug Ford sat in the mayor's vacant chair Tuesday, and Mammoliti put a handwritten "Doug" sign over the name plaque so it read "Mayor Doug Ford."



Doug Ford TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

"If his brother doesn't come back, a candidate needs to enter the race who talks about keeping what we have going with respect to savings," said Mammoliti. "The rest of the candidates are not talking about keeping the agenda going, they are only talking about spending money."

Doug Ford's refusal to comment about his political ambitions was in contrast to comments he's made in the past. He has often spoken of his intention to run as an MPP for the Progressive Conservatives, following in his father's footsteps.

At a press conference in February, however, he announced he would not run for re-election at the municipal level nor run in the next provincial election because he was focused on managing Rob Ford's re-election campaign.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

O brother, where art thou?

Rob Ford's whereabouts remain unknown. There has been unconfirmed speculation that he may be in rehab in the Guelph area.

- Coun. Denzil Minnan-Wong said Tuesday that he briefly spoke with the mayor when Doug Ford passed him the phone.
- "He was in good spirits, said he was working out and that he was in rehab," said Minnan-Wong.

GHOST OF MCGUINTY

Premier Kathleen Wynne makes a campaign stop at Burlington's Appleby GO station on Tuesday. Controversial former premier Dalton McGuinty — the Liberals' version of Lord Voldemort in that they so seldom mention his name — has finally come up in the provincial election campaign. See story and more election coverage, pages 4 and 5. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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City brands condoms for Pride

Toronto Public Health plans to unwrap a city-branded condom ahead of next month's Pride celebrations.

The condom's design will be revealed on June 4 as part of a pilot project and distributed throughout the summer. The "condomTO" will be available in bars, clubs, hotels, gyms and clinics across Toronto, but concentrated in the Church-Wellesley area.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

May be more victims

Couple bilked insurance co. $1M

Toronto police say a husband and wife who pleaded guilty to defrauding insurance companies of more than a million dollars may have more victims.

Between 2006 and 2008, Alireza Shojaei purchased life insurance policies totalling $3.525 million, with his wife, Koukab Shojaei as the beneficiary. In 2008, the couple travelled to Iran, where the husband supposedly died of a heart attack and the wife initiated death-claim processes with each of the insurance companies.

Police began the extradition process in 2010 when it was learned the husband was alive and well in California. THE CANADIAN PRESS

May 6 CMW story

Correction

The Canadian Music Week story on Monday's page 6 said Janelle Monáe was performing. She is in fact not performing. Metro regrets the error.

Me to We to woah

Me to We speaker and Free the Children ambassador Spencer West visited Brown Junior Public School on Tuesday morning for a special presentation to celebrate the fundraising efforts of students who have collected money for Me to We projects. Toronto-based pop-rockers Neverest performed for the students and popular youth activist Hannah Alper spoke about access to education. Brown Junior Public School has raised several thousand dollars for Me to We projects around the world.

LIZ BROWN/METRO

Alleged attackers still in classes with victim

Sutton high school. Family says beaten teen was target of racial slurs for months

A black teen beaten as fellow students watched and filmed it on their smartphones has been the target of bullying and racial slurs for months — ever since the family moved to the area last fall, says the boy's father.

The 17-year-old still attends Sutton District High School in York Region, and his family is upset the alleged attackers continue to as well, and that the teens are even in some of the same classes.

"Can you imagine? He is in the same class with these kids," said the teen's father, Charles Makuto. "The superintendent's response was that there's only one high school in town.

PJ Makuto TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"There is one in Keswick, or they could have made arrangements where the kids are in separate classes. They haven't done that."

Four youths — aged 14, 15, and 16 — and one 18-year-old, who police will not name, have been charged with assault in the April incident in which students yelled the n-word and offensive comments from the sidelines as PJ Makuto was punched and kicked. Video of the attack was shared on social media.

All of the accused appear in Newmarket court next week.

The Vaughan African Canadian Association said there is "deep-seated racial tension" the school hasn't dealt with over the years.

Students, however, feel they've all been tarnished because of the actions of a "small pocket" of teens. "We have been portrayed as a racist school when really we are not like that," said Jake Anderson, student council president. "It's select individuals who do these kinds of things. The specific incident ... does not represent our school."

Just last year principal Dawn Laliberte had to ban teens from wearing items with the Confederate flag. She said she "addressed that issue head on," talked to students and staff about the symbol and why it is offensive, and worked with inclusivity teams.

Students are "disgusted" about what happened last month, she said.

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Talking the talk

Police have made 20 visits to York region high schools this year, promoting diversity and human rights — seven of those visits to Sutton.

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Hudak still no fan of 'corporate welfare'

Campaign trail.
Tory leader defends his position against government handouts to businesses

Decision Ontario

"Corporate welfare"-hating Tory Leader Tim Hudak is surrounded by government subsidies.

For the past two days he was eager to talk about the public-sector successes only to find the two firms he visited had received provincial and federal grants respectively to help boost employment.

"I don't blame companies that are trying to get some of their money back," he said when asked if his organizers were having trouble finding companies that haven't accepted government funding.

But he quickly added that he still doesn't believe in giving out cheques "to the well-connected" but rather create the conditions so that all businesses "succeed on a fair level playing field."

On Monday he talked about his undefined million-jobs plan at Metalworks recording studio in Mississauga, where founder Gil Moore talked about the importance of provincial funding for the music industry.

And then Tuesday, Hudak chose to make his standard jobs pitch, including his opposition to government bailouts, at Automatic Coating Limited, which received $50,000 from the federal Conservative government in January.

Hudak is a staunch opponent of government handouts, saying it's the private sector that creates jobs when taxes are low and electricity prices are reasonable, among other things.

"I've got a clear plan: Affordable energy, lower taxes, less government debt, a greater emphasis on the skilled trades," he told reporters.

In contrast, Hudak said Liberal Leader Kathleen Wynne lacks the discipline to create good paying jobs.

"We have a premier who is not focused on the most important thing and that's creating jobs," he said.

"You know what I want to be if I get the job (as premier)? I will be the jobs premier. It's that simple."

Hudak said he is more concerned about creating "good middle-class jobs," not minimum-wage jobs. "If you want somebody who is going to be focused on part-time minimum-wage jobs ... that's what Kathleen Wynne is all about."

As of February, the Ontario unemployment rate was 7.3 per cent, above the national average of 6.9 per cent.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Skilled trades

The Progressive Conservative leader said he wakes up every day wondering how to create more jobs, including 200,000 skilled-trades jobs. He has called for a greater role for Ontario's community colleges to focus on the skilled trades.

Tory Leader Tim Hudak tries his hand at a threading machine at the Durham College plumbing class Tuesday. RICHARD J. BRENNAN/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Horwath vows $12 minimum wage

A New Democrat government would give minimum-wage workers a raise to $12 over two years while trimming small-business taxes to ease the hit on payrolls, party Leader Andrea Horwath said Tuesday.

Campaigning for the June 12 election at a Tim Hortons in the Jane and Finch area, Horwath gabbed with people having their morning coffee and said "a lot of folks are worried about jobs."

While Liberal Leader Kathleen Wynne's minority government is raising the minimum wage 75 cents to $11 hourly on June 1 and proposed tying it to inflation, Horwath said she would go one better by raising it 50 cents in each of the next two years to $12.

To compensate for the strain on employers, the NDP leader promised to cut the small-business tax rate to three per cent from the current four per cent rate over two years.

"We need to be sensitive to the impact it has," Horwath told reporters.

Horwath's promises were a sneak peek into a campaign platform that has not yet been released. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NDP Leader Andrea Horwath
THE CANADIAN PRESS

GFL Environmental Inc.

Garbage collector's safety rating downgraded

The provincial government has downgraded the safety rating of the company that collects Toronto household waste west of Yonge — largely because of a spate of incidents during the rocky first three months of its contract, city and company officials say.

The downgrade could affect the company's ability to win other municipal contracts in Toronto and Peel Region.

It is fodder for the city workers' union, which says garbage service is best delivered by the public sector, and for the mayoral campaign of Olivia Chow, who does not want to proceed quickly with garbage outsourcing east of Yonge.

The company's recent safety performance, however, may be better than the downgrade suggests.

The company, GFL Environmental Inc., was handed a "conditional" rating, down from "satisfactory."

Its "overall safety violation rate," based on a complex formula, stood at 76.2 per cent as of Tuesday — well above the 70 per cent satisfactory threshold and worse than more than 99 per cent of commercial vehicle operators in the province.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Premier finally mentions You-Know-Who

Kathleen Wynne and the deathly predecessor. Liberal leader calls McGuinty a transit champion after avoiding his name

Decision Ontario

Controversial former premier Dalton McGuinty — the Liberals' version of Harry Potter's Lord Voldemort because they so seldom mention his name — has come up in the June 12 election campaign.

Avada Kedavra!

After she requested Lt.-Gov. David Onley dissolve the legislature on Friday, Wynne was asked repeatedly by reporters about the shadow McGuinty cast over the campaign. That day it was as if the former premier — whose $1.1-billion cancellation of gas-fired power plants in Oakville and Mississauga has dogged Wynne — was He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named.

Liberal Leader Kathleen Wynne on Tuesday was forced to concede it was under her predecessor's stewardship between 2003 and 2013 that transit funding started to roll.

"Dalton McGuinty ... was absolutely committed to building transit. I was his minister of transportation at the time we were getting this project going and I am very proud of the work that we have done," Wynne said.

Her comments came at the construction site of the Eglinton Crosstown LRT, a $5-billion project McGuinty broke ground on in 2011. It will open in 2020.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Free the Children takes flight

Students from St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School take a group photo with recording artist Karl Wolf at the WestJet, Free The Children partnership announcement on Tuesday. CONTRIBUTED

Hash oil explosions spike with legalized pot

The opening months of Colorado's first-in-the-nation recreational marijuana industry have seen a rise in fiery explosions and injuries as pot users try to make the drug's intoxicating oil in crude home-based laboratories.

Since Jan. 1, when sales began, the state's only certified adult burn centre has treated 10 people with serious injuries they suffered while making hash oil, compared with 11 in 2013 and one in 2012.

Law enforcement and fire officials, meanwhile, are grappling with how to respond, as the questionable legality of the process has made it difficult to punish amateur chemists.

Some prosecutors are charging them with felonies, while others say hash oil production is protected under a provision of the new legal pot law.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Going to pot

Hash oil is typically made by packing the castoff leaves and stems of pot plants into a pipe and pouring highly flammable butane through it. The concoction is heated to make the potent oil for far cheaper than it can be purchased in stores. The golden mixture can be up to 80 per cent THC.

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LGBT rights

Ugandan gay activist seeks asylum

Fearing prison or even death, an openly gay activist from Uganda is seeking asylum in the United States since his home country toughened criminal punishment against gays.

John Abadallah Wambere came to the U.S. for a speaking tour in February, and Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni three days later passed the new measure that strengthened penalties against gay sex, including life in prison.

Wambere, who now lives in Cambridge, said Tuesday, one day before his visa expires, that it was a heartbreaking decision to leave behind the gay community he has supported for over a decade and to leave his 16-year-old daughter. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lawyer detained

China deterring remembrance of Tiananmen?

Chinese authorities detained a well-known rights lawyer and several other people Tuesday in an apparent bid to deter activists from marking the 25th anniversary of the brutal military suppression of pro-democracy protesters in Tiananmen Square.

Beijing police placed Pu Zhiqiang under criminal detention early in the morning, according to Qu Zhenhong, an associate at Pu's firm who has been in contact with his family. Pu enjoys mainstream prominence that is unusual for most dissidents, and news of his detention was circulating widely on Chinese microblogs.

Pu has not been formally indicted. Beijing police had no comment. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Russian political activists Nadezhda Tolokonnikova, right, and Maria Alyokhina of the band Pussy Riot joined U.S. Sen. Ben Cardin in seeking action to stop violations of human rights by pro-Russian militants in the Ukraine region, at the Capitol in Washington, D.C., on Tuesday. J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pussy Riot take their message to Capitol Hill

Human rights abuses. Pair asks Congress to add 16 officials to list of Russians facing sanctions

Two members of the Russian dissident punk group Pussy Riot came to the Capitol Tuesday and asked members of the U.S. Congress to add 16 officials to the list of Russian human rights violators who face U.S. sanctions.

Before a throng of cameras and reporters, the women — Nadezhda Tolokonnikova and Maria Alyokhina — said Russian President Vladimir Putin's crackdown on human rights was damaging that country.

"Putin is not leading Russia to stability, but to complete instability and chaos," Tolokonnikova said through a translator.

The pair was arrested in 2012 after an obscenity-laced performance criticizing Putin at Moscow's main cathedral. They spent nearly two years in prison, but since their release have continued decrying the lack of freedom in Russia and harsh government tactics against opponents.

The women said Russia has resumed abusing prisoners, including using mandatory psychiatric treatment for some. They said they hoped public pressure would force the mistreatment to stop.

"Silence is the most dangerous thing for a political prisoner," said Tolokonnikova.

By law, the United States can freeze assets and ban travel to the U.S. of Russians deemed to be human rights abusers. Currently, 18 Russians are on a public list of people facing such sanctions while an unknown number of others are on a confidential list. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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848 priests defrocked since 2004: Vatican

Sexual abuse statistics. In last 10 years more than 3,400 cases have been reported

Archbishop Silvano M. Tomasi delivers a statement at the headquarters of the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland. SALVATORE DI NOLFI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Vatican released comprehensive statistics for the first time Tuesday on how it has disciplined priests accused of raping and molesting children, saying 848 priests have been defrocked and another 2,572 given lesser sanctions over the past decade.

The Vatican's UN ambassador in Geneva, Archbishop Silvano Tomasi, revealed the figures during a second day of grilling by a UN committee monitoring implementation of the UN treaty against torture.

Tomasi insisted the convention applied only inside the tiny Vatican City state. But he nevertheless released statistics about how the Holy See has adjudicated sex abuse cases globally, and significantly, he didn't dispute the committee's contention that sexual violence against children can be considered torture.

Tomasi said that since 2004, more than 3,400 credible cases of abuse had been referred to the Vatican, including 401 cases in 2013 alone.

Acknowledging the high number of priests sanctioned with the lesser punishment, Tomasi said it still amounted to disciplinary action and that the abuser is "just put in a place where he doesn't have any contact with the children." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Number of cases

The data provided to the UN committee Tuesday is the first ever year-by-year breakdown of how abuse cases were adjudicated by the papal court.

- Archbishop Silvano Tomasi said that since 2004, more than 3,400 credible cases of abuse had been referred to the Vatican, including 401 cases in 2013 alone.
- He said that over the last decade, 848 priests had been defrocked, or returned to the lay state by the pope.
- Another 2,572 were sentenced to a lifetime of penance and prayer or some other lesser sanction.

Trial. Pistorius accused of making 'sinister' remark to friend of Steenkamp

Oscar Pistorius was accused of making a "sinister" remark to a friend of Reeva Steenkamp in the courtroom Tuesday during a break at his murder trial.

Pistorius denied the allegation that he said to the close friend of the girlfriend he killed: "How can you sleep at night?"

The accusation by Kim Myers provided a bizarre twist during the trial of the world-famous double-amputee Olympian, who is facing 25 years to life in prison if convicted of premeditated murder for shooting dead Steenkamp, a 29-year-old model, at his home last year.

Pistorius, 27, denies murder and says he killed Steenkamp by mistake thinking she was an intruder when he shot her multiple times through a closed toilet door.

He also denied to reporters in the courtroom that he made any comment to Myers. Pistorius said he hadn't spoken to members of the Myers family for weeks, despite sitting a few feet away from them during proceedings. Myers' lawyer said she told him it happened.

Myers was approached by Pistorius and he made the remark to her in a "very sinister way," the lawyer for Myers said. Attorney Ian Levitt said Myers was "shocked" and did not know what it referred to. Levitt said she found it "extremely disturbing." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Friend of the late Reeva Steenkamp, Kim Myers, listens to a witness giving evidence during the murder trial of Oscar Pistorius, in Pretoria, South Africa, Tuesday. ALON SKUY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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With little military help, families form search parties to look for captured girls

Chibok girls school. A student who escaped her captors recounts the harrowing experience

The girls in the school dorm heard the sound of gunshots from a nearby town. So when armed men in uniforms burst in and promised to rescue them, at first they were relieved.

"Don't worry, we're soldiers," one 16-year-old girl recalls them saying. "Nothing is going to happen to you."

The gunmen commanded the hundreds of students at the Chibok Government Girls Secondary School to gather outside. The men were not government soldiers at all. They were members of the ruthless Islamic extremist group called Boko Haram. They kidnapped the entire group of girls and drove them away into the forest.

There were too many gunmen to count, said the girl who escaped. So, even after the students realized the men were Islamic extremists, they sat obediently in the dirt. The men set the school ablaze and herded the girl's group onto the backs of three pickup trucks.

The trucks drove through three villages, but then the car of fighters following them broke down. That's when the girl and her friend jumped out.

As they jumped, the car behind started up. The girls did not know if the fighters could see them, so they ran and hid. Later on, a man on a bicycle found them and accompanied them home. There, they were met with tears of joy.

Three weeks later, 276 girls are still missing. At least two have died of snakebite, and about 20 others are ill, according to an intermediary who is in touch with their captors.

With little confidence in the military, residents of Chibok bought fuel for motorcycles and headed into the dangerous Sambisa Forest themselves.

An old man herding cattle warned them that they were close, but that they and their daughters could be killed if they confronted the militants.

The searchers returned to Chibok and appealed to the few soldiers there to accompany them into the forest. Parents ask why they came within a couple of miles of their daughters, yet the military did not.

"What was strange was that none of the people we spoke to had seen a soldier man in the area, yet the military were saying they were in hot pursuit," said Mutah Buba, who joined the search to look for his sisters and nieces.

However, the military says it is diligently searching, with extensive aerial surveillance.

The 16-year-old who escaped keeps thinking of her friends, and wondering why she was able to get away while they are still captive. "I am really lucky and I can thank God for that," she said. "But God must help all of them." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

People march in front of the Nigerian embassy in Washington, D.C. on Tuesday to protest the kidnapping of nearly 300 teenage girls, abducted from a school in the remote northeast of Nigeria. MANUEL BALCE CENETA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Colorado

Pilot crashes into his former home

A pilot crashed into a home that he once owned near Denver.

Pilot Brian Veatch said that he owned the home, as indicated by property records, but said he didn't realize that's where he crashed until someone else pointed it out. He now lives about a mile away. The plane was towing a banner and was supposed to fly over a Colorado Rockies baseball game. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cape St. George

A whale of a sale

People living in Cape St. George, N.L., aren't sure what to do with a dead whale that's settled along their shoreline.

But Mayor Peter Fenwick says letting the 12-metre sperm whale simply rot is out of the question.

Fenwick tried to sell the carcass on eBay, but the ad was taken down for violating a policy on animals and wildlife products. He says at least two people have since expressed interest in removing the whale, which the town is now offering for free.

The federal Fisheries Department says it's not responsible for the whale because it's within the town's boundaries.

Fenwick says the carcass is in good shape, though it appears someone sliced through the whale's belly.

Whale rescue expert Wayne Ledwell says it could take a couple of months for the carcass to decompose once it's cut open, if the community is willing to put up with the stench. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Global warming causing weather woes: Report

Global warming is rapidly turning America the beautiful into America the stormy, sneezy and dangerous, according to a new federal scientific report. And those shining seas? Rising and costly, the report says.

Climate change's assorted harms "are expected to become increasingly disruptive across the nation throughout this century and beyond," the National Climate Assessment concluded Tuesday. The report emphasizes that warming and all-too-wild weather are changing daily lives, using the phrase "climate disruption" as another way of saying global warming.

But it's not too late to prevent the worst, says the 840-page report.

White House science adviser John Holdren called the report "the loudest and clearest alarm bell to date signalling the need to take urgent action." Later this summer, the Obama administration plans to propose controversial regulations restricting gases that come from existing coal-fired power plants.

The report also says that flooding alone may cost $325 billion by the year 2100 in one of the worst-case scenarios, with $130 billion of that in Florida. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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University of Utah

School's president backs changes to 'sexist' fight song

It's time for the University of Utah to consider tweaking parts of the school fight song Utah Man that some find sexist, the school's president said Monday.

Proposals to adjust such lyrics as "I'm a Utah man" and "our coeds are the fairest" have spiked emotions on campus.

"Utah man" could become "Utah fan," some have said, but no specific changes have officially been proposed.

The song dates back to 1904 and once contained the lyric "We drink our stein of lager and we smoke our big cigars." Officials replaced that part with the line referring to coeds.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Acrobats' stunt gone wrong

Probe over, circus takes down big top, heads out of town

Investigators have completed an initial investigation into the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus accident that sent eight acrobats plummeting to the floor during a hair-hanging stunt Sunday and are turning over a broken clip and other material to federal safety investigators.

Providence fire investigator Paul Doughty said they have narrowed down the cause of the broken clip to two possibilities: a manufacturing defect or improper use.

The circus has packed up and is headed for Connecticut without eight of its acrobats, who remained hospitalized in Providence.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Monica Lewinsky, seen in this July 2001 file photo, writes about her life in this month's Vanity Fair magazine. In released excerpts, she says she's perhaps the first Internet scapegoat and wants to speak out on behalf of other victims of online humiliation. DARLA KHAZEI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

'It's time to burn the beret and bury the blue dress'

Monica Lewinsky.
Former White House intern opens up on affair with Bill Clinton

Former White House intern Monica Lewinsky says there's no question her boss — Bill Clinton — "took advantage" of her when he was president.

But she says their affair was consensual and if there was any abuse involved, it came afterward, when Clinton's inner circle tried to discredit her and the president's opponents used her as a political pawn.

The former White House intern, now 40, writes about her life in the next issue of Vanity Fair magazine, out this month. In released excerpts, she says she's perhaps the first Internet era scapegoat and wants to speak out on behalf of other victims of online humiliation.

Lewinsky was 22 when her liaisons with Clinton began in 1995. Clinton's lies about the relationship contributed to his impeachment by the House in 1998; the Senate acquitted him.

Lewinsky writes that she deeply regrets the affair and made a point of staying silent through several presidential campaigns to avoid becoming a distraction. Now, she writes, it's time to stop "tiptoeing around my past — and other people's futures. I am determined to have a different ending to my story. I've decided, finally, to stick my head above the parapet."

Invoking her headwear from endlessly repeated TV clips and the stained garment considered as evidence against Clinton, she writes: "It's time to burn the beret and bury the blue dress."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Breaking her silence

These aren't Monica Lewinsky's first public words on the scandal.

- Lewinsky broke her silence in 1999 with a blockbuster interview with Barbara Walters, gave several subsequent interviews and co-operated with author Andrew Morton on his book the same year, entitled Monica's Story.

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Hoppie is happy because he's heading home

Hoppie, left, the sea lion rescued from an almond orchard follows Eugene while being released back to the wild Tuesday at Chimney Rock in Point Reyes National Seashore, Calif. ERIC RISBERG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Victims Gardens

Warning: Details may disturb some readers.

Gordon Stuckless confronted by tearful testimony of men he pleaded guilty to abusing decades ago

One of Gordon Stuckless's victims wept on the stand Tuesday as he accused the man at the centre of the Maple Leaf Gardens scandal of raping him decades ago.

Lloyd William Forde, one of two accusers in the case who can be legally identified, told a Toronto court that Stuckless would molest him regularly when they went on walks or to the movies.

Forde, who was seven or eight years old at the time, recalled an incident in which they went to a barn and ended up on a couch in the loft, both with their pants off.

"I lay on the couch on my stomach and he said to me — and this will burn in my brain forever — 'It's going to hurt a little bit, but it's OK because everybody does it. All the boys do it,' and he proceeded to have intercourse with me," said Forde, now 55.

"Basically he just raped me."

Stuckless pleaded guilty last month to 100 charges related to the sexual abuse of 18 underage boys decades ago, including Forde and another man who testified Tuesday.

But he pleaded not guilty to another eight charges involving six of those victims and is now on trial on those offences.

Stuckless's lawyer Ari Goldkind said he expects some of the charges to be withdrawn before the trial comes to a close.

Speaking outside court, he said his client has taken responsibility for the crimes he committed and vehemently denies carrying out those eight offences, which include buggery and assault.

Forde said Stuckless befriended his mother, whom he knew from the hockey community, and quickly began to seek him out for walks and other outings.

It was during these outings that Stuckless would grope the boy's genitals, often while masturbating, and at times perform oral sex on him, according to an agreed statement of facts

Auditor general's

Auditor General Michael Ferguson delivered Here are the four things

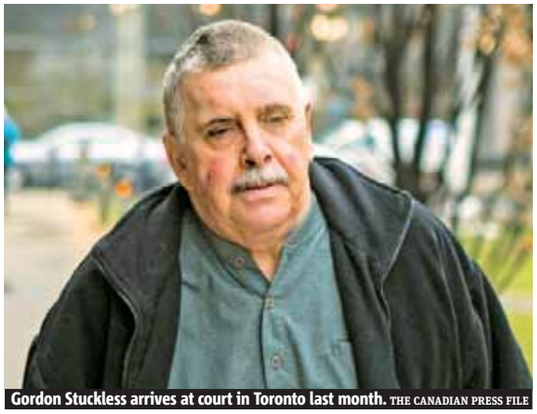
Overcrowding still a problem in prisons

The prison system has met its immediate need for cells, but has not figured out how to deal with the long-term problem of crowding, especially since federal law-and-order legislation promises to keep more people behind bars for longer periods. The audit says there is already overcrowding in some regions as prisoners are bunked two to a cell — and the problem could get worse.

Policing in First Nations isn't measuring up

The First Nations policing system is not working as intended and some of the police services fail to meet provincial policing legislation and standards. The audit found that First Nations don't have enough say in negotiating policing agreements. The Public Safety Department doesn't know whether First Nations police facilities, such as jails, police stations and accommodations, meet fire and building codes or provincial standards.

testify at sex trial



Gordon Stuckless arrives at court in Toronto last month. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

read in court last month.

"It happened over and over," Forde testified Tuesday.

Stuckless admitted those assaults, but denied what Forde alleges Stuckless did to him in the barn.

Another man, who cannot be identified due to a publication ban, told the court he is still haunted by the abuse he suffered at Stuckless's hands.

"You ruined my life, man," he said, glancing at Stuckless from the stand. "He ruined my life."

The man, who was 11 at the time, described some of the abuse, including an incident in which Stuckless allegedly pressed a blade to his neck while molesting him.

The Crown is expected to request a dangerous offender assessment for Stuckless, but Goldkind says it's not warranted since his client has been living a "very law-abiding life" since his previous convictions and voluntarily undergoing chemical castration.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Christian law school taking legal action in three provinces

A Christian university in B.C. that has been under scrutiny for its policies around homosexuality is taking legal action in B.C., Ontario and Nova Scotia.

Trinity Western University says it is launching lawsuits in Ontario and Nova Scotia, where the provinces' bar associations have voted not to accredit graduates of the school.

The university says it will also apply to be added to a lawsuit in B.C., where Toronto lawyer Clayton Ruby is suing the provincial government over its decision to approve the law school.

Critics have argued the school's so-called community covenant, which forbids sex outside heterosexual marriage, will lead to discrimination against gay and lesbian students.

University president Bob Kuhn says the Ontario and Nova Scotia law societies are sending the message that religious people cannot hold onto their values and participate in society.

Kuhn notes the Supreme Court of Canada ruled in the school's favour in 2001 in a similar case related to the accreditation of its teaching graduates. THE CANADIAN PRESS

report, in brief

his spring report to Parliament Tuesday. you need to know.

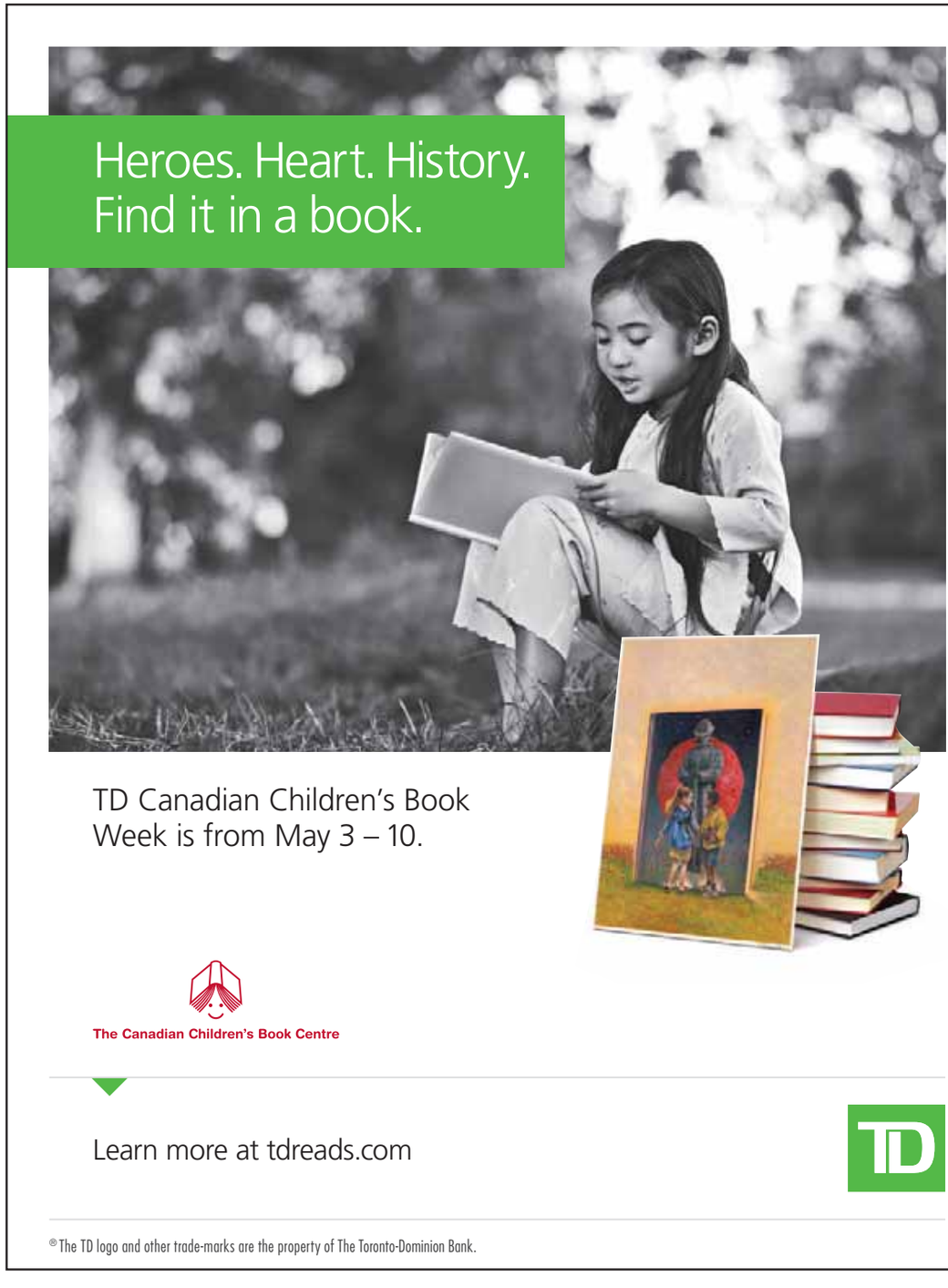
Public pension plans need more oversight

Public-service pension plans, covering public servants, Mounties and the military, are not regularly assessed for sustainability. The audit says the Treasury Board should assume a greater role in overseeing the plans, because prolonged low interest rates, lower-than-expected returns on assets and longer life spans could end up costing taxpayers billions.

StatsCan job data not giving a clear enough picture

The country's top survey on job vacancies is too vague and doesn't provide much value to governments and other users. Statistics Canada needs to better address the needs of those outside the federal government who use its data, especially when it comes to job-vacancy data. The auditors say the agency must find better ways to deliver data on small areas and smaller populations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS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See that symbol? Use your Metro News app to scan the photo for a tour of Glenda Wagar and Pat Gerlinsky's ranch in Northern B.C., the scene of a potentially fatal sour gas leak in 2009.

On the edge of the Rocky Mountains in one of Canada's most remote corners, plains are marked by deep gorges B.C.'s Peace River country, which finds itself on the verge of a liquefied natural gas boom, a projected trillion-dollar requires fracking, a practice banned in three Canadian provinces. Over three days, Metro will look in depth

THE NEW FRONTIER

Glenda Wagar and her boyfriend Pat Gerlinsky visit with two-year-old colts and fillies on their farmland in northeastern B.C. on April 29. EMILY JACKSON/METRO IN VANCOUVER

'Sudden failure.' Horse breeder still feeling effects of uncontrollable wellsite blast in 2009

MATT KIELTYKA
Metro in Vancouver

Glenda Wagar jolted from bed at 3 a.m. as the roar of jetting gas boomed through the frigid November air.

It smelled like rotten eggs.

"There's a problem, I can't breathe," she clutched for her sleeping boyfriend.

Confused and weary, she left the safety of her home in the dead of night to investigate.

The rural landscape outside her front door was engulfed in a thick, white fog that rolled with the countryside.

"I couldn't even see the little trees across the driveway. It was just fogged right in."

The social worker and horse breeder spent the next six hours searching her property — a quarter section of farmland, and another half section of grazing land for her 60 horses in Pouce Coupe (just south of Dawson Creek in northeast B.C.) — for broken sewer lines, while frantically trying to call neighbours and emergency responders to find out what happened.

At 9 a.m., with the unrelenting blast of "jet engines" and stench still in the air, Wager finally learned the severity of her situation.

"A truck drove up the yard and was honking like crazy," she recalls.

It was a local hunter who had taken his life into his own hands to warn residents they were at risk.

"He said, 'You're in the middle of a cloud. Get out, get out, get out!"

On Nov. 22, 2009, Encana wellsite A5-7-77-14 L W6M, near Wagar's ranch, failed in sudden and spectacular fashion.

A B.C. Oil and Gas Commission investigation found that a tee section of piping developed a leak when blasted from the inside by fracture sand (used to break up shale rock formations) that should have been cleaned out after the fracking process.

"It just peeled that steel out like it was cheese," figures Pat Gerlinsky, Wagar's boyfriend.

The leak intensified for hours until 8:38 a.m., when it developed into a full-blown "sudden failure," according to the incident report.

The emergency shutoff valve closed automatically at 9:05 a.m. but was unable to stop the "uncontrollable" flow of gas because the valve was downstream from the failure point.

It wasn't until the Encana control room at Hythe, Alta., more than 60 kilometres away, received a hydrogen sulfide (also known as sour gas) alarm at 9:10 a.m. that the company's response to the incident began.

A total of 18 people were evacuated from within a 1.34-kilometre radius of the well.

Most had gotten themselves out of harm's way.

By the time the well was shut

High-pressure tactic

What the frick is fracking?

Fracking is shorthand for hydraulic fracturing, a method of extracting natural gas from unconventional sources, like shale rock formations, that were previously inaccessible through drilling methods.

The process involves drilling into the earth and injecting millions of litres of fluid — a mix of water, sand and chemicals — at a high pressure into shale rock to fracture the rock and release the gas trapped inside.

The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers explains how it works:

• A hole, called a wellbore, is drilled vertically into the ground. Once it reaches the depth of the shale rock, up to three kilometres below the surface, the drill turns horizontally into the rock.

• Steel tubes (casing) are inserted into the wellbore and secured by cement. The casing is meant to prevent the fracking fluid from leaking and contaminating drinking water aquifers.

• Fluid is injected into the hole at a high pressure to crack the shale rock and release the natural gas into the well. The cracks extend 50 to 100 metres into the rock.

Much of the controversy lies in the potential health risks from sour gas leaks to air pollution and contamination of drinking water. A study from the Council of Canadian Academies, an independent organization of scientists and other experts, concluded there isn't enough known about the impacts of fracking to declare it safe.

There are no documented cases of groundwater contamination from the fluid used in fracking in B.C. But a 2011 investigation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency found fracking contaminated two wells with high concentrations of benzene, a known carcinogen, in Wyoming.

Another potential risk is sour gas, which can be found in 30 per cent of the natural gas and crude oil reserves in Western Canada, according to the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers.

When fracking occurs in sour gas zones, the risk of gas leaks can be fatal. Sour gas contains hydrogen sulphide, which is highly toxic and can kill in seconds in high concentrations. THANDI FLETCHER/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Health risk study

- A 2010 Endocrine Disruption Exchange study determined that more than 75 per cent of chemicals used in fracking can affect the skin, eyes, and the respiratory and digestive systems.
- The non-profit group dedicated to researching health and environmental problems caused by exposure to chemicals found about 40 to 50 per cent of the chemicals could affect the nervous system, immune system, cardiovascular system and the kidneys.
- Twenty-five per cent of the chemicals are known to cause cancer.

A truck pulls out of an active wellsite in the Lochend area near Cochrane, Alta., on April 7. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

cut into the land by its snaking rivers, forests and swampy muskeg. Welcome to industry. It means jobs and loads of money. But getting the gas out of the ground at the state of fracking in Canada and the potential health implications

OF FRACKING

Wagar, who breeds horses, says the mares had fewer foals the year of the sour gas leak. EMILY JACKSON/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Gerlinsky and Wagar walk down the road to visit their horses. Due to Wagar's health problems, she plans to sell half the herd. EMILY JACKSON/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Striking a sour note even now

"It hasn't gotten better. ... There's always a pain there." Glenda Wagar, horse breeder

at 10:45 a.m., approximately 30,000 cubic metres of natural gas containing approximately 6,200 ppm (parts per million) of potentially lethal — though the commission classified it as "low level of toxicity" — sour gas were released into the atmosphere.

Encana, through a Community Environmental Justice Forum, paid out $250,000 in compensation to the Pouce Coupe fire department, emergency evacuation preparedness programs at Tate Creek Community Centre and Ducks Unlimited Canada wetlands projects.

"Encana took full responsibility for the failure and deeply regrets its occurrence," said Encana spokesperson Doug McIntyre in an email to Metro. "Encana implemented a number of mitigation measures including recommendations from the B.C. Oil and Gas Commission to help prevent this type of incident from happening in the future."

But having lived through the ordeal, Wagar says her health, especially her respiratory system, has been permanently damaged.

"I was coughing and my eyes were watering and I had a hard time breathing," she said.

Doctors, through X-rays and breathing tests, told Wagar her lungs are "compromised" but can't link it to the gas leak.

The dizzy spells she experiences since the leak mean Wagar can't drive for long distances and that she's been unable to continue working as a social worker.

She also can't ride horses much anymore, the love of her life since she was five years old.

Time has not restored Wagar's faith in the gas industry, especially as fracking operations in northeast B.C. expand to feed the province's liquefied natural gas dreams.

"Like I told Encana, 'You should have been finding dead people,'" she said, stone-faced.

Time also does not heal all wounds. "It hasn't gotten better. The dizziness is getting worse and the pain in my chest is the same. It hasn't gotten worse or better," she said. "There's always a pain there."

Liquefied natural gas. It's a pipeline to prosperity for B.C.'s Fort St. John

The short drive from the North Peace Regional Airport to the municipality of Fort St. John, B.C. reveals much about where the wealth of the northeast of the province lies.

It's no Vegas strip, but signs welcome you to the "Energetic" north as modern new corporate offices for Shell Canada, Talisman Energy, Canadian Natural Resources, Can-Am Geomatics B.C. and the B.C. Oil and Gas Commission line the road into "B.C.'s Energy Capital."

The region has sizeable forestry and agriculture industries, but make no mistake: Peace Country is gas country.

And gas country has been good to Fort St. John, a fast growing city of approximately 21,600 people making an median family income of $98,643.

By contrast, the median family income in Canada was $76,511 in 2010.

Creating a community

"Ten years ago, 50 per cent of our roads were gravel with open ditches. Streetlights were pretty much non-existent and sidewalks were non-existent," said Fort St. John mayor Lori Ackerman. "We have been able to get those roads redone, and paved, curbed and guttered. We've got rec facilities. The reality is we have been working very hard to create a community where young professionals are going to enjoy life."

The growth, she said, has been attributable to a natural gas industry that has taken advantage of hydraulic fracturing to extract the region's abundant supply of shale gas.

More than 9,000 wells have been drilled in the province since 2005, the vast majority of them in this corner of B.C.

Representing just two per cent of the voting population, Ackerman is quick to point out the region and the oil and gas industry ("There's very little oil. I think we say oil and gas simply because it rolls off the tongue better") have been living in relative obscurity for decades.

Fort St. John Mayor Lori Ackerman discusses the anticipated boom in natural gas extraction. EMILY JACKSON/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Spectra Energy's McMahon gas processing plant in Taylor, B.C., is seen from the Alaska Highway on April 29. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Striking it rich

+$22,132

Families in the gas-powered city of Fort St. John, B.C., make $22,132 more than the national median income.

Lucrative resource

But that changed when British Columbia Premier Christy Clark pinned the province's future on liquefied natural gas (LNG) and exporting northeast B.C.'s most lucrative resource to emerging Asian markets.

The trillion-dollar industry (a combination of gas extraction in northeast B.C. and processing and export by sea in the northwest) will create 100,000 jobs and eradicate the provincial debt, Clark promises.

David Hughes, a former geologist with the Geological Survey of Canada and current president of Global Sustainability Research, forecasts up to 50,000 new wells would have to be drilled over the next 27 years to meet the 14.6 billion cubic feet per day demands of the seven LNG export applications already approved by the National Energy Board as of January.

That would increase B.C.'s gas production to nearly 50 per cent more than what all of Canada currently produces.

Potential risks

That's grabbed the attention of not just investors, industry and government, but also environmental groups, First Nations and academics worried about the potential environmental and health risks associated with widespread fracking.

A human health assessment is underway for the Ministry of Health and documents leaked to The Canadian Press in April show B.C. Environment Ministry staff is worried methane emissions from fracking "can have a significant impact on overall emissions."

All of a sudden, all eyes are on Fort St. John.

Ackerman — who has four children working in the oil and gas industry and says there's never been a cause for fear — doesn't know if the provincial government's claims are legitimate. She's too busy dealing with the real world.

The city is currently going through a boundary extension and the population is projected to nearly double — to 40,000 — in 10 years, regardless of whether LNG pans out or not.

Her city needs doctors, nurses, schools and amenities to keep up with the growth gas extraction and the proposed Site C hydroelectric dam will bring.

Unprecedented expansion

From coast to coast, there's a huge demand for skilled workers in this remote region east of the Rocky Mountains.

"There's going to be development. It's going to get more bustling," she said. "If we're going to take advantage of the opportunities in front of us, I think LNG has to be in consideration. I'm not sure where in this province — until our forestry gets back on its feet — we'd see any other revenue sources from."

As the industry gears up for unprecedented expansion, Ackerman believes it's advanced and responsible enough to do so without harming its neighbours. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

MORE IN OUR FRACKING SERIES

Thursday

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Friday

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WestJet, Air Canada rivalry hits new heights

Increased competition. Calgary airline could give Canada's largest carrier a run for its money if its 'value-based' global service gets off ground

Clive Beddoe, chairman and co-founder of WestJet Airlines, speaks at its annual general meeting of shareholders in Toronto on Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

WestJet Airlines says it could take its rivalry with Air Canada overseas by launching an international service using large wide-body aircraft.

The Calgary-based airline said Tuesday the new service could be in place in one-and-a-half to three-and-a-half years, if its board gives the green light. WestJet has been discussing the move with its pilots and also meeting with potential airplane lessors and manufacturers.

"So no decision made yet, but we're getting all the pieces in place to be able to make a good decision," president and CEO Gregg Saretsky said during a conference call to discuss its first-quarter results, which saw a lower profit.

WestJet is already getting into the European market by launching service next month to Dublin from St. John's, N.L., using its narrow-body Boeing 737 aircraft. It said demand is so strong the seasonal service will be extended by about three weeks to Oct. 25.

"All of that gives us great confidence that there is strong demand for a value-based international product that WestJet is looking to pursue," Saretsky said before the airline's annual meeting in Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SPECIAL INSERT ON MAY 12

Watch for your copy of **RIDE** in METRO on Monday, May 12.

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Pet food

Nestlé has a dog in this legal fight

Nestlé Purina PetCare Co. filed suit Tuesday against Blue Buffalo Co. Ltd., accusing its competitor of misleading consumers about the ingredients in its dog and cat foods.

The lawsuit accuses Blue Buffalo of false advertising, disparagement and unjust enrichment.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kids these days

The 'nutritionally aware' generation

Subway is testing hummus and thinner slices of deli meats that look more appealing as it looks to keep pace with changing eating trends.

The hummus test comes at a time when many Americans are trying to cut back on how much meat they eat. In particular, Tony Pace, Subway's chief marketing officer, noted that people in their 20s are more "nutritionally aware" than any other past generation. In coming years, he predicted their eating habits will force the restaurant industry to adapt their menus.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Subway execs hope new offerings appeal to youngsters. GETTY IMAGES

Market Minute

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TSX 14,612.29 (-84.74)

OIL $99.50 US (+$0.02)

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Natural gas: $4.79 US (+$0.09)
Dow Jones: 16,401.02 (-129.53)

Going out of business. After 35 years clothier Jacob files for bankruptcy

Women's clothing retailer Jacob Inc. has filed for bankruptcy and will be liquidating inventory at all 92 of its stores across Canada in the coming weeks.

The Montreal-based company has been under creditor protection since November 2010 and underwent operational restructuring. But the company says it was unable to make the business profitable or to find new financiers.

In a release issued on Tuesday, the company cited the challenging economy plus the influx of new international retailers to the Canadian marketplace among the factors leading to the company's inability to overcome its financial challenges.

"Although we did not achieve the desired result, I am proud of the passion and dedication that the Jacob team showcased over these past few years while trying to bring the company back to financial health," president and founder Joey Basmaji said in a statement.

A man walks by a Jacob clothing store in Montreal on Tuesday.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

"I would like to sincerely thank each employee and business partner that contributed to our success during these 35 wonderful years. I hope that the remaining Canadian retailers will get through these difficult economic times."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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CINCO DE MAYO, LOS BANDITOS & LIME

JUST SAYIN'

Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

One of the funniest classic Monty Python sketches features legendary 18th century highwayman Dennis Moore accosting a stage coach and demanding that the occupants "Hand over all the lupins you've got!"

"Lupins?" asks the puzzled victim. "You mean the flower, lupin?"

"Yes, lupins. Come on, come on."

"Well, we haven't got any lupins."

It goes on. Laugh if you will, but truth is stranger than fiction.

Mexican drug cartels are muscling in on the fruit crop — limes, in particular.

Yes, limes, the little green citrus fruit. Turns out Mexico is the world's leading exporter of limes.

Drug cartels, finding it increasingly difficult to get drugs across the U.S. border, are running extortion rackets on lime growers, threatening dire consequences like burning down the farm unless the growers fork over a percentage of their crop.

The crop was already suffering the effects of a rough winter, even by Mexican standards. One cartel, the so-called Knights Templar, based in the Michoacan, the main lime-producing centre of Mexico, saw an opportunity to profit from the shortage and squeeze the farmers, and their limes, dry.

This dastardly lime crime comes at a bad time: Cinco de Mayo. Limes are an essential compañero to a full array of celebration beverages: mojitos, margaritas, and of course, the ever-popular cerveza.

Back in January, limes sold for an average $22 US per case. Since the desperadoes got involved, the price has skyrocketed to $100 US a case, and as much as $1.54 per lime (in Calgary). Airlines have removed limes from the menu, substituting lemons instead.

So far, no one has demanded that we hand over our lemons.

Really, it's only a matter of time. The cartels are already starting to move into the avocado market. Holy guacamole, Batman!

It was bad enough when these banditos were exploiting human misery and addiction, but now that they are having an impact on our very guacamole, they've gone too far. Call in the GEA (the Guacamole Enforcement Agency)!

You can imagine what's going on in Hollywood right now. Screenwriters and directors are huddling over beer and lemons, pitching concepts featuring supermodels who track down lime bandits and cross the border to recover the contraband fruit shipments and restore them to their rightful owners.

Meanwhile, in the "real" world, lime farmers have actually formed vigilante groups to fight back against the cartels. Fearing further Cinco de Mayhem, the Mexican military has moved in, demanding that the vigilante groups dissolve by El Decimo de Mayo. Talk about a Mexican standoff.

Enjoy that dip while you can, amigo, and pray the guacamole bandits don't go after our lupins.

ZOOM

Turns out it was just a reflector

Fast-changing lighting made this photograph a challenging one to capture. "With the late afternoon sun, the whole area was changing in appearance minute-by-minute," said photographer Darrell Staggs. Staggs used a glare-reducing polarizing filter "to capture the full reflection of the canyon wall, but also retain the 'shadow' reflection of the hiker." COURTESY DARRELL STAGGS

A real cliffhanger ... actually it's a fake one

This image seems to show a hiker teetering on a cliff's edge, but a closer inspection reveals that it's a pool of water acting as a perfect mirror for canyon walls.

The optical illusion picture, taken in Glen Canyon in Utah, is a winning entry in this year's Share the Experience photo contest, which celebrates America's national parks in pictures.

METRO

But what is real, anyway?

Staggs, who now specializes in optical-illusion photography, hopes that viewers will appreciate how "the contradictions in the image begin to give way to the truth of the reflection," and thus see the picture's artistic side.

"This is how a photograph can transition into 'art' — a photo to look at, and art to think about."

METRO

Photog's view

"Even though I've looked at it countless times, the picture remains an elusive illusion. It's difficult to discern what is really happening there."

Darrell Staggs, 50, chemical engineer & amateur photographer from Mooresville, Ind.

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MetroTube

Japan comes by its eccentricity honestly

ANDREW FIFIELD
metronews.ca

If you're anything like us, you've spent a lot of time wondering how the Japanese manage to come up with an endless parade of curious, absurd, amazing, helpful and awe-inspiring ideas. Cat cafés. Love hotels. The world's most robust vending machine shopping. How do they come up with it all?

Well, as suggested by this lesson in Nakizumo — a rite-of-spring crying contest involving babies and gently antagonistic sumo wrestlers — Japanese have a centuries-old tradition of high-concept cultural development that paved the way for the wonderfully eccentric place it is today.

(Via Ronin Dave on YouTube)

GETTY IMAGES

metro

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See that symbol? It means you can scan the photo below with your Metro News app. Don't reply! Chef gets some social media advice.

Films to whet your appetite

Foodie movies. Chef may offer tantalizing food scenes, but it's not Hollywood's only foray into the kitchen

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Jon Favreau (left) stars in Chef. CONTRIBUTED

Chefs are the Food Network's stock in trade.

A new film, Chef, takes a celebrity, actor Jon Favreau, and casts him as a restaurateur who has lost his way and desperately wants to reclaim his cooking cred. In the film, he plays Carl Casper, a Los Angeles chef who hightails it to his Miami hometown when his fancy restaurant gets a scathing review from an online food critic (Oliver Platt). There he buys El Jefe Cubanos, a food truck he plans on driving across the country with his son (Emjay Anthony).

High on food porn — there's even a shrimp scampi seduction scene — and Cuban sandwich recipes, Chef is a movie that may whet audience appetites for other movies about the people that make food.

In The Big Night, Stanley Tucci plays Secondo, owner of an Italian restaurant called Paradise. The place is slowly going broke but may get a boost from a visit by singer Louis Prima. If Prima shows up, the restaurant will have a big night and be saved from bankruptcy.

It's not only one of the greatest food movies ever made but it also features what Rolling Stone's Peter Travers called "an unforgettable acting duet" between Tucci and Tony Shalhoub, who plays his temperamental chef brother, "that is as richly authentic as the food."

Ratatouille takes a different approach. The Pixar movie does something no other film has been able to (not that a lot have tried): It makes rats cute.

The story of a cooking rat is chef and TV presenter Anthony Bourdain's favourite food film. "They got the food, the reactions to food, and tiny details to food really right," said The Taste host. "I really thought it captured a passionate love of food in a way that very few other films have."

Real chefs are featured in the documentary Spinning Plates. Weaving together three stories from very different restaurateurs, the film shows the personal and professional side of the food biz as well as the connection to the community that's so important for success.

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Seth Rogen's getting o but he's still young at

Funny guy. His character in Neighbors may have lost touch with his youth, but Seth Rogan is still very much rolling with the punches

MATT PRIGGE
Metro World News

Seth Rogen wages war against a fraternity that moves in next door in Neighbors. CONTRIBUTED

Seth Rogen isn't old; he's only 32. But he has more responsibilities than many his age, even if the work he puts out — including last summer's This Is the End, which he also co-directed with his longtime friend Evan Goldberg — is generally about youngish men struggling with responsibilities and maturity.

In Neighbors, he plays Mac, who's not only married (to Rose Byrne), but also a new father. Their boring life is upended when a frat house, led by Zac Efron, moves in next door.

The film's writers talk about how this was borne out of anxiety about aging. Is that something you share?
I had no specific fears about turning 30. It was more the general compiling of responsibilities, coupled with the lack of time to do the stuff that you used to do more of. And the physical repercussions of trying to do the stuff that you used to do more of (laughs).

The hangovers suddenly get brutal when you turn 30.
They're much worse. It takes me weeks to recover now.

The frat boys aren't completely demonized here. They're sympathetic at times.
I think in earlier versions of the script, the frat was much more vilified. But Zac is just such a good dude, and Chris [Mintz-Plasse] and Dave [Franco] and Jerrod [Carmichael] are all such nice, sweet guys that it inherently made them not that bad. It made them more sympathetic, in a great way.

These films seem to have such a democratic way of being put together. Everyone chips in.
Definitely. The audience is probably the most important element. That's the loudest voice in the process, in some ways. We test the movies a lot, we see what gets laughs, what doesn't, and we really listen not to the words they're saying but the feeling that you have when you're watching the movie with the audience. We really will change the movie heavily when we do that.

Has that happened a lot?
Yeah. We don't change the story that much, but the specific things that people are saying, we do change. If they don't laugh we'll try different jokes. And that's one of the good things about improv — you get a lot of options. So if one joke sucks you have other options you can use.

How did you prep to play a dad?

Bad Little Kid

New film in the works based on Stephen King short story

Stephen King's short story Bad Little Kid, published as an ebook for French and German audiences this March, has been snapped up by documentary maker Laurent Bouzereau for a film adaptation. Known for helming a wide variety of "Making Of" featurettes, Bouzereau was also the writer and director behind A Night at the Movies: The Horrors of Stephen King.

Bad Little Kid is about how one evil child affects the lives of those he comes into contact with. AFP

older, heart

Quoted

"I couldn't even tell you what Mac does for a living, honestly. I don't know what we're doing in that place. Just working in an office. It just seemed like a place people ... work."

Seth Rogen, who plays Mac in Neighbors on how little he actually knows about his character

Uh, I did not prep for this role. I do not do preparation for my roles as an actor. I just do it. I couldn't even tell you what Mac does for a living, honestly. I don't know what we're doing in that place. Just working in an office. It just seemed like a place people … work (laughs).

Do you have any experience with frats?
Not really, no. I don't know if I've ever been in a real frat house. I didn't go to college, and in Canada they're not that big. I wrote an episode about frats when we did the show Undeclared, and that was probably the most experience I ever had, up until this movie. After seeing the movie, though, it seems like it's not that bad. It seems fun.

Comedy of errors. Rose Byrne is glad her Neighbors character isn't the usual 'nagging wife'

Frats aren't much of a thing in Australia, where the actress Rose Byrne hails from. In Neighbors, she and Seth Rogen play suburban parents whose lives are upended when a frat moves in next door. For Byrne it continues her move into comedy, after a long stint doing mainly drama, like TV's Damages, as well as the occasional horror film (28 Weeks Later, Insidious). In fact, she's been doing films like Get Him to the Greek and Bridesmaids for so long, she might have forgotten how to be serious.

Rose Byrne in Neighbors HANDOUT

It's nice that you get to do your natural Australian accent for a change.
Initially, I thought it would be too jarring. Then I thought it could work for the character, because Australians tend to have a wild streak. It's a big drinking culture. There's Irish and Scottish and English descent. And (her character) is so irresponsible. She's not willing to grow up and thinks she can get away with the things she's doing.

She's also not the usual stereotype of the killjoy wife with a manchild husband.
We really wanted to not make her the stock nagging wife. "Don't go out to the party!" They even have a scene where they reference that, and he says, "You've got to be responsible, you're the woman," and that misogyny. I think it made for a funnier film, making them a comedy duo rather than have them against each other.

This is a comedy, but like a lot of these Apatow universe comedies, it's about a real anxiety, and it doesn't pick sides between the couple and the frat.
I have friends, homeowners, who've seen it who find it really anxiety-inducing. Then again, kids who are 18 or 19 would probably find our characters really annoying. It represents both points of view. But I really see Teddy (the frat leader, played by Zac Efron) as quite villainous, because he's so manipulative and vain. And stupid as well. He's defining himself so greatly around this ridiculous role in this fraternity. Our characters are more bumbling. MATT PRIGGE

Fourth time's a charm. Beverly Hills Cop 4 to hit the silver screen in 2016

The police comedy franchise will return to theatres in March, 2016 with Eddie Murphy in the title role once again, Paramount has indicated.

The franchise will be revived through this fourth instalment, which will arrive in theatres 22 years after Beverly Hills Cop 3. Eddie Murphy will reprise his legendary role as Axel Foley, the fearless, fast-talking cop.

For the fourth Beverly Hills Cop movie, the protagonist will leave sunny California to return to his hometown of Detroit.

Jerry Bruckheimer and Paramount are producing the feature, which will be helmed by Brett Ratner. The director behind the Rush Hour franchise worked with Eddie Murphy on the comedy Tower Heist in 2011.

Last season, Beverly Hills Cop nearly returned to the screen as a TV series, as CBS ordered a pilot for a comedy on the life of Axel Foley's son. The project hit a dead end, but Eddie Murphy's brief appearance in the pilot sparked a wave of enthusiasm for the character of Axel Foley. AFP

Eddie Murphy is set to return as Axel Foley. CONTRIBUTED

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Revealing the abstract Under the Skin

Experimental film. Director Jonathan Glazer's vision needs to be enjoyed as an experience of consciousness

CHRIS ALEXANDER
scene@metronews.ca

Scarlett Johansson is a humanoid alien vampire in a world she doesn't understand in Under the Skin. CONTRIBUTED

There's a striking sequence in director Jonathan Glazer's 2004 psychodrama Birth in which his camera holds tight on the porcelain visage of actress Nicole Kidman. As opera swells on the soundtrack, we continue to hold while observing her run the gamut of emotion, climaxing with a shot of a single crystal tear streaking her cheek…

It's a moment of poetry, wordless and beautiful and its ominous grace is amplified throughout every minute of Glazer's latest film, Under the Skin. The movie stars Scarlett Johansson as a humanoid alien vampire, driving through the streets of Edinburgh hunting for viral men whom she seduces and harvests as food for her planet. Or something. The picture is sparse on dialogue and narrative clarity and that's exactly what makes it such a profound — and disturbing — cinematic experience.

"I think of it as an experimental film," Glazer says.

"There is no mastermind approach towards daring the audience. It's more just the nature of this particular story that is challenging. What is challenging, I think, is once you commit to her experience, you're looking at it through her lens and in doing so, the film has to be told in the same perspective. So I think it's demanding, but it's like anything: If you're open to it, then hopefully you'll enjoy the ride. If you're not, then you won't."

Quoted

"I think its intention is to talk to the viewer at a level of consciousness."

Director Jonathan Glazer on Under the Skin

Under The Skin is nothing if not divisive. Impossible to market (Is it a science fiction piece? A horror film? Existential drama?), the film is an absolutely singular experience and aside from Glazer's dedication to the abstract, it's Johansson's remarkable, uninhibited turn (she is often unclothed) as the outsider adrift in a world she/it does not understand that makes it so compelling.

"That really is just about casting," says the filmmaker.

"It's about looking out there and seeing who the right person for the character is and for Birth it was Nicole and for this one, it was Scarlett. She went into it with her eyes open and she understood that she was dealing with a character that had a bravery that needed to be matched by hers as an actress. You can't pull back from that. If you pull back from that then you're pulling back from the telling of the story."

Reminiscent of heady '70s films like Nicolas Roeg's The Man Who Fell From Earth, Under the Skin is a subjective experience. Because it never overplays its hand or offers much in the way of exposition, each viewer will react to it differently. Such was its creator's intent. "I think its intention is to talk to the viewer at a level of consciousness. We bypass the intellect when we listen to music or when we look at a painting. I think film is a fantastic medium to be able to do the same. In how it's trying to represent something kind of unimaginable — this infinite and alien entity — it's not something for words, really. It shouldn't be explained away. Our intention was to protect its alienness, to remain inscrutable from beginning to end."

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Everyone Makes a Mark

R&B chanteuse Ledisi tells The Truth on new album

A new direction. The golden-voiced R&B singer chose to go with a poppier sound on her new record

CHRIS JORDAN
Metro World News

What do Beyoncé, John Legend and Ledisi have in common?

They all performed at Michelle Obama's birthday party in January. For Ledisi, who has just released a new album called The Truth, it was, and it wasn't, just another day at the White House. The R&B singer has performed there multiple times.

"It's always the same feeling where I have an aha moment: 'Whoa, I can't believe I'm here," Ledisi says.

"(The President and Michelle Obama) make you feel so comfortable, it's like talking to friends or family members and they love music and people. They look you in the eye when they're speaking and you might be calm on the outside but inside, you're freaking out — they really appreciate my gift!"

The Obama-Ledisi connection became public in 2010 when Michelle Obama told People Magazine that "she's got that really pretty voice."

The voice, which has racked up eight Grammy nominations so far, should get broader appeal, thanks to The Truth.

The tracks have a bit more contemporary, poppier feel than the sultry ballads and jazzy excursions of her previous albums. The lead single, I Blame You, is an appealing mid-tempo R&B jam which showcases the soaring power of Ledisi's pipes.

"It's about wanting to open up to different audiences that I think I have been closed to," Ledisi says. "I wanted to open it up to younger audiences — if I've been ignoring them, it wasn't on purpose."

Ledisi, whose full name Ledisi Anibade Young, is a New Orleans native who moved to Oakland in her teens.

She started out on the indie route with 2000's Soulsinger: The Revival and followed that in 2007 with a major-label debut on Verve called Lost & Found.

Now, it's time for The Truth.

"There are songs that will make you feel upbeat and songs about relationships that didn't work," Ledisi says. "I'm embracing who I am and who I've become."

Quoted

"There are songs that will make you feel upbeat and songs about relationships that didn't work. I'm embracing who I am and who I've become."

Ledisi, on her new album The Truth

Ledisi's new album, The Truth, finds the sultry singer leaving behind her jazzier influences for a bigger, poppier sound. UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP

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Megan Fox ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Pregnant Megan Fox was 'constantly on the verge of vomiting' on TMNT set

Megan Fox admits that both her pregnancies with husband Brian Austin Green were complete surprises. "We can't let Brian near me anymore," she joked to Ellen DeGeneres during an interview. Joking aside, a pregnancy coming out of nowhere can be a bit stressful, especially if you're just starting production on Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, as Fox was. "It's an action movie and requires a lot of running and jumping and stunts. Anyone that's been pregnant knows your first trimester can be pretty rough and you're nauseous all day long," she says. "The producers would come see me in the morning in the makeup trailer and I would be clinging to a box of saltines. We kept pickles in the refrigerator for me, and I was constantly on the verge of vomiting."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Ansel plays Shailene's bro in one film, lover in another

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News

Usually, movie stars gush to the press that they can't believe how amazing their co-stars were. But Shailene Woodley, star of The Fault in Our Stars, is going around telling the press that she can't believe Ansel Elgort was cast at all.

It's not as mean as it sounds. Woodley, who plays a terminally ill teen in The Fault in Our Stars, also starred in the recent dystopian thriller Divergent. In that film, Elgort played her brother, so Woodley was certain that their onscreen siblinghood would keep him from playing her love interest in TFiOS: the dreamy Augustus Waters.

But Woodley says Elgort's just that good. "Everybody in the room was sort of like, 'Wow,'" she said.

But it's going to make the next Divergent movie a little weird to watch. I'll keep expecting Tris to make out with her brother.

And it was all mellow: Chris and Gwyneth continue to pal around

For a husband and wife who are separating, Gwyneth Paltrow and Chris Martin seem pretty cool about hanging out together. Last month, they joined forces for son Moses' 8th birthday and now they've been seen together again during a group dinner in Santa Monica, Calif., where sources spotted them smiling and laughing.

Gwyneth Paltrow

Twitter

@ChloeGMoretz
btw, i was 100% the shortest girl at the #MetGala

@EmmaBunton
It's my gorgeous little boys 3rd birthday, time is going too fast!

@justinbieber
Smiling everyday.

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See that symbol? It means you can scan the photo below with your Metro News app for more images from the Okanagan Valley

Deserts and mountains and vineyards, oh my!

The Okanagan Valley. Want to forget this brutal winter? This spring, take a trip through some of the nicest wine country in Canada

DOUGLAS PATON
life@metronews.ca

These views will have you Kelowna-fornia dreaming. CONTRIBUTED/TOURISM BC

There's something almost surreal about the view.

The snow-frosted mountain contrast starkly with the 20-plus-degree temperatures, blue skies and the cherry blossoms that surround you on the valley floor. But, from your vantage point, sitting on a winery patio with a glass of wine, and enjoying the weather in short sleeves and flip-flops, it's just what you need to shake off the winter blues from a season that felt like it was ushering in a new ice age.

Nestled between the Monashee Mountain range to the east and the Cascade Mountains to the west, British Columbia's Okanagan Valley is one of those places that makes Canada a truly unique country.

With summertime temperatures that push into the 40s, without even a hint of humidity, and winters that usually only drop below zero long enough to harvest icewine grapes, the Okanagan has become one of the best wine producing regions in Canada.

For those looking to spend a long weekend jump-starting the summer, and who want a chance to experience what the wineries of the Okanagan Valley have to offer, there is no better time to visit than during the Spring Wine Festival, which runs until May 11.

For many of the wineries in the Okanagan, the festival, currently in its 20th year, is the perfect way to usher in the first crop of tourists for the year and to show off their new vintages. Many wineries host wonderful events ranging from food and wine pairings to grand soirées and it's possible to plan an entire weekend around those events.

For those who want a more self-guided tour, perhaps the single hardest decision you'll make all weekend is where to start. After all, there are over 200 award-winning wineries in the Okanagan, and you do only have three days.

Perhaps the best piece of advice I can offer is to find a central location and work from there. You're never really more than a hour's drive away from any one part of the Okanagan Valley, but the more centrally located you are, the less driving you have to do and the more wine you can enjoy.

Located approximately 60 kilometres to the south of the Kelowna airport, the town of Summerland offers up the perfect central location and the 14 wineries of the Summerland's Bottleneck Drive provide a fantastic sampling of what you can expect from the Valley, everything from award-winning sparkling wines to small-batch wines that sell out almost as soon as they're offered up for sale.

Like many places in the Okanagan, Summerland is not only about the wine. The Kettle Valley Steam Railway offers a scenic tour through vineyards, orchards and gulches and, for the hikers, you can't beat the view from the top of Giant's Head Mountain, almost smack dab in the middle of town.

Heading south from Summerland takes you past the wine country B.C. VQA Wine Information Centre in Penticton — which sells wine from many B.C. wineries and can help you plan out your route — through Oliver's Golden Mile and down into Canada's only desert region. The heat from the Northern tip of the Sonoran Desert helps the winemakers from the Oliver-Osoyoos Winery Association grow bold red wines.

Like all good things, every visit to the Okanagan must come to an end and, if you're like most people, you'll probably find yourself thinking, "I really wish I'd bought just one more bottle of wine to share with my friends back home." Rest assured, the Kelowna Airport has you covered with the only wine shop located beyond security in Canada. And, yes, you can take any wine you buy at the airport wine shop on the plane with you.

If you go...

- **The Spring Wine Festival.** Runs May 1-11 thewinefestivals.com.
- **Summerland's Bottleneck Drive.** bottleneckdrive.com.
- **Kettle Valley Steam Railway.** kettlevalleyrail.org.
- **BC VQA Wine Information Centre.** pentictonwineinfo.com.
- **Oliver-Osoyoos Winery Association.** oliverosoyoos.com.

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Bucket List

Sailing on the Bosphorus

All the great waterways of the world have their enclaves of amazing homes. But when it comes to the wooden Ottoman waterfront mansions that line the infamous Bosphorus Strait, separating the European and Asian sides of Istanbul, Turkey, you're in for some prime sail-by gawking. These "yali" are generally secondary "beach" houses, built between the late 1690s and the early 1900s by wealthy families of the region. On the rare occasion when one goes on the market, the ticket price ranges an astronomical $85 million to $200 million, with the reasoning being, according to a tour guide, that "there are many houses to buy in this world, but only one Bosphorus."

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

Live like a local when you're abroad

Authentic travel. Want to get a true taste of local culture? Here are some tips for stepping off the tourist track

ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

Having an experience that feels authentic to the destination is often a highlight of any holiday. But how does a tourist find those secret spots and have interactions that make them feel less like an outsider?

Book alternative accommodation. Instead of a hotel, stay somewhere that's off the tourist track, consider a bed and breakfast, check into a university residence (during the summer months) or rent a house in a residential neighbourhood.

You will be more exposed to the rhythms of everyday life taking out the garbage, chatting with the neighbours or shopping at the local grocery store.

Avoid the usual suspects. Ask a shopkeeper, waiter or stranger on the street where their favourite neighbourhood haunt is, whether it's a café, bar or restaurant.

Clarify that you are willing to travel and not necessarily looking for something close by. Don't ask the hotel concierge as they are often trained to send you to places designed to serve tourists.

Pick up a local entertainment paper and search the current listings for exhibits, clubs or concerts.

Connect with your tribe when abroad: Find people who share your interests — like cycling. ISTOCK

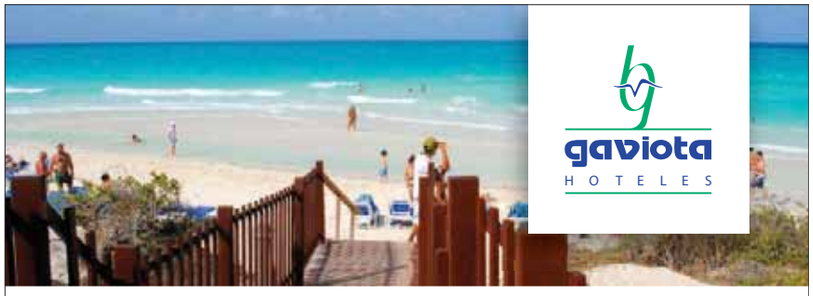
Do something on vacation that you would normally reserve for home. Go ahead and cheat on your stylist and get a haircut at that 1950s era barbershop on the corner, work out at the local gym or go to a church service. Watching people worship is an intimate cultural experience that can give great insight into a destination. Confirm in advance that you are welcome to participate, either actively or from the sidelines. Also ensure that you are dressed appropriately; the last thing you want to do is offend someone.

Find your tribe. If you have a hobby that you love, whether it's knitting, books or cycling, try and hook up with like-minded locals. Research your destination for clubs, enthusiasts' groups or the local hangout. It's not only a great way to see a new destination, but meeting people who share common interests increases your chances of a striking up a conversation, which could lead to other tips, advice and discoveries.

Take it online. Many the trip-sharing advice sites like TripAdvisor.com are useful in helping you find those hidden gems.

Follow the Twitter handle of the city that you're visiting for updates on local events or download one of the numerous apps that offer insider opportunities.

EatWith, for example, connects travellers interested in a home-cooked meal with a host willing to welcome them in to their private dining room.



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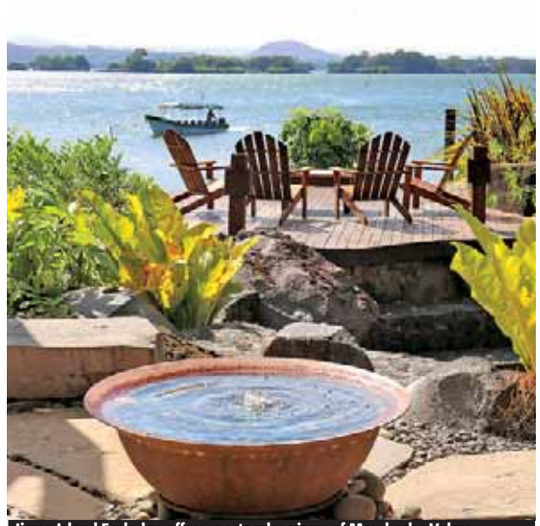

Jicaro Island Ecolodge offers spectacular views of Mombacho Volcano.
ANDREW DOBSON/FOR METRO

Looking to do something a little different with your beach and jungle vacation this year?

Nicaragua, a relatively undiscovered tropical country of active volcanoes and lakes, supports age-old cultures and boasts wildlife wonders like monkeys, macaws and the occasional jaguar.

Today the eco-luxe resort concept is trending across the country, offering visitors with a heart for ecotourism and love of luxury the prettiest paradise.

Irene Edwards is the founder of award winning adventure travel company Greenspot Travel and describes the eco-luxe experience as "the art of combining comfort and a certain level of pampering service with immersion in nature, while integrating a strong element of caring and preserving for the natural environment and traditional cultural heritage."

Just a short boat ride from the colonial town of Granada, Jicaro Island Ecolodge offers spectacular views of towering Mombacho Volcano on Lake Nicaragua.

In under 10 minutes one can tour the small private island, which includes a wee sandy beach, sun-drenched yoga deck, boutique spa, breezy dining room and refreshing turquoise pool.

The experience here is intimate, a perfect honeymoon destination for those looking to romance themselves.

The island is dotted with just nine, two-storey casitas, which certainly wow.

A plush king-sized bed can be found upstairs while a spacious living room on the main floor connects to an outside deck where a comfy hammock offers the perfect place to put your feet up and enjoy a jaw-dropping lake view.

Morgan's Rock can be found on the shores of the Southern Pacific Coast of Nicaragua, a short 20-minute drive from the care-free surf town of San Juan del Sur.

Located on a 4,000-acre expanse of jungle, nearly half of the resort is a government protected reserve.

The huge property plays home to just 15 bungalows, which offer guests stunning views over a private mile long beach.

Enjoy "the luxury of lazy" by working on your tan at the pool, swaying in a hammock on the beach, or sipping a tart margarita (or two).

Those looking for an adventure are spoiled for choice as friendly tour guides offer a menu of daily excursions such as horseback riding along the beach at sunset and bird watching via kayak through a mangrove forest.

Be sure not to miss Breakfast on the Farm, where guests milk cows for coffee, fetch eggs to fry and slap together tortillas to create their very own authentic Nicaraguan brunch.

If you go...

- **Jicaro Island Ecolodge.** jicarolodge.com
- **Morgan's Rock.** morgansrock.com

Morgan's Rock. ANDREW DOBSON/FOR METRO

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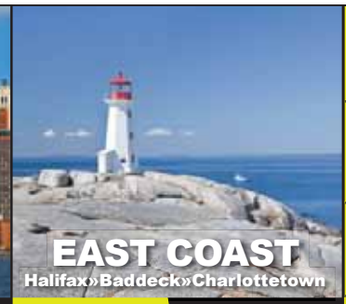

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Out of the wild

Bear who loves the good life headed to sanctuary

A bear that apparently became too accustomed to the good life at a ski resort at Lake Tahoe is headed for an animal sanctuary or zoo after wildlife officials decided he's unfortunately become too domesticated to be returned to the wild.

The year-old black bear, dubbed "Heavenly," was captured in March after skirting past a busy ski lift at the Heavenly Mountain Resort at Stateline on the California-Nevada line.

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How-to

Jazz up your travel experience

1. You don't have to sleep at the fancy hotels to enjoy them. Pop by for a drink at the bar before you head out for dinner.

2. Ditto brunch (such as at Cecconi's Miami Beach, above). Or even better, high tea.

3. Triple ditto if the posh hotel has a nightclub that's on the DJ circuit.

4. Some hotels will let you hang out at their pool for the day for a small fee, especially in areas with a high density of tourists.

5. Swank hotel lobbies make for excellent people-watching — and that's free.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

Trend

CONTRIBUTED/EDEN ROC

Canadian women travel more

Chalk another one up for the importance of "me time." A new survey from hotel-finding giant Booking.com reports that Canadian women travel solo more often than women in any other country except Australia, with whom they are tied. A whopping 76 per cent said they have headed to the airport alone before. Escaping their daily lives tops the lists of reasons respondents gave (at 62 per cent), with spa holidays, beach escapes and shopping trips voted as the preferred travel themes.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

Deal

Aeroplan hooks up with Shop.ca

Aeroplan announced last week it has signed a deal with Shop.ca that will allow Aeroplan members to earn travel miles on purchases they make at the popular online marketplace. Perks include free shipping and returns — and for a limited time, Aeroplan members can earn 15 miles for every dollar they spend on their first purchase at Shop.ca. Keep an eye out for the regular special deals that will inevitably ensue.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

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Grilling made fancy: Pesto Salmon

DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca

Quick dinner. This dish is easy enough for a weeknight meal and sophisticated enough for a entertaining guests

Looking for a fast dinner for the week that can double for a fun weekend get together?

Salmon is so fast and easy to grill up and enjoy during the week, but also a great meal to share with friends. This simple but elegant supper also uses fresh in-season asparagus to showcase great colour, texture and crispness right off the grill.

With a hint of lemon, it's the perfect accent to the salmon. Steam up your favourite fragrant rice to round out your plate.

This recipe makes six servings. EMILY RICHARDS

Ingredients

Pesto
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) light mayonnaise
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) chopped fresh Italian parsley
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) store-bought basil or sundried tomato pesto or Dijon mustard
- Pinch freshly ground black pepper and salt
- 4 boneless salmon fillets, skin on (about 600 g total weight)

Grilled Asparagus
- 1 lb (454 g) asparagus spears
- 1 tsp (5 l)) extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) black pepper
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) lemon juice
- Lemon wedges

1. In small bowl, whisk together mayonnaise, parsley, pesto, pepper and salt. Spread the pesto evenly over top of salmon; set aside.

2. Grilled Asparagus: Snap tough ends of asparagus off and discard. Toss spears with oil and pepper.

3. Place fillets and asparagus on greased grill over medium-high heat. Close lid; cook 10 minutes or until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork and asparagus is tender crisp. Drizzle asparagus with lemon juice.

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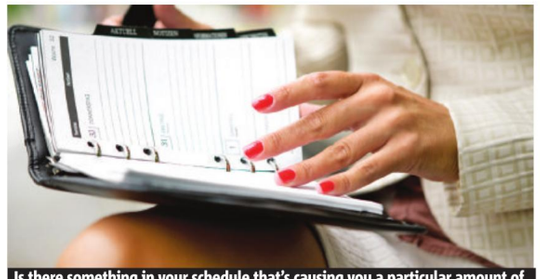
Is there something in your schedule that's causing you a particular amount of stress? Squashing it during your peak prime-time hours will likely result in a much more productive day. ISTOCK

Are you a morning person or night owl?

While some of us accomplish more work before breakfast than for the rest of the day, others hit their stride after dinner.

Peak performance times are deeply personal, and don't always sync with work schedules and life responsibilities.

Once you determine your own prime time for getting things done, there are many ways to take advantage of it and accomplish more.

Protect your prime time

Micromanaging your schedule to ensure you don't take on too much makes it more likely your prime time can be focused on priority tasks.

Try to block out many of those peak performance hours on your schedule and consider them sacrosanct and non-negotiable.

"The most productive people know how to say no (when they are fully committed), but most importantly, they know how to delegate and outsource," says Joanna Cohen in Inc. Magazine.

If appropriate, consider hiring a virtual assistant to help with administrative or technical tasks. Alternatively, look through your network for possible collaborators and team up to accomplish more.

Plan ahead for productivity

Productivity experts recommend matching your most difficult tasks to your most productive times.

For many of us, that is first thing in the morning. Importantly, "the first thing you accomplish at work sets the tone for the rest of the day," explains Gina Trapani. To kick-start your workday with a quick and significant win, Brian Tracy recommends you "eat the frog first" — tackling the most high priority (and perhaps dreaded) task on your desk before getting lost in the busywork of email or being distracted by coworkers.

"When you use your most productive hours, you can make a lot of progress," writes Laura Vanderkam, "and that progress is motivational."

Manage microtasks

Keep a list of micro-tasks for those small gaps in your schedule.

What items can you accomplish in transit, or on your phone? Make it a habit to postpone non-critical email responses and use read-it-later apps like Evernote or Pocket, so your phone can be a productivity tool in moments of microboredom and downtime.

"Always have an article to read for times when you are standing in line, on a bus, or waiting for an event to begin," advises the SuccessfulAcademic blog, "use all those little bits of time" to your advantage.

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NBA

Thunder's Durant wins MVP over LeBron, Griffin

Kevin Durant has plenty of scoring titles. Now, he finally has an MVP trophy to go with them.

The Oklahoma City Thunder star won the NBA's top individual honour Tuesday, grabbing 119 first-place votes. Miami's LeBron James, who had won the last two MVP awards and four of the previous five, finished second with six first-place votes and Blake Griffin of the Los Angeles Clippers was third.

"Everything in my life, I had to take it," Durant said at a ceremony in Edmond. "They're not going to give it to you out of sympathy. I wouldn't want it any other way. This was another case, if I wanted to win the MVP, I had to go take it. I felt that this was the year I did that."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Blue Jays fight off Phillies comeback

Juan Francisco's sacrifice fly in the 10th inning lifted the Toronto Blue Jays to a 6-5 win over the Philadelphia Phillies on Tuesday night.

Cody Asche hit a game-tying grand slam in the sixth to help the Phillies rally from a 5-0 deficit, but they were swept in a two-game portion of a four-game, home-and-home interleague series. The teams meet Wednesday night in Toronto.

Edwin Encarnacion and Colby Rasmus went deep for the Blue Jays. Marcus Stroman (1-0) pitched 1 1/3 scoreless innings for his first win. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Toronto 'all in' on Raps coach Casey

Three-year deal.
GM, coach planned on new deal long before team's playoff run

Toronto Raptors head coach Dwane Casey addresses the media Tuesday after the end of the team's season.
GALIT RODAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dwane Casey has been carrying around a contract in his briefcase for the past few months, signed by all the Toronto Raptors and the team's staff.

The contract, just two or three lines long and something that "wouldn't hold up in court," Casey said laughing, was a pledge of commitment. Its headline: "I'm all in."

Perhaps no one was more committed than Casey to the Raptors' success this season, and on Tuesday, the 57-year-old coach was rewarded with a new three-year contract. The announcement came two days after Toronto's season ended, but a couple of months after GM Masai Ujiri first approached the coach to get a deal done.

"Coach Casey was really classy because he said to me and he said to the players, 'Let's leave this and concentrate on the season, this is our chance to prove ourselves,'" Ujiri said, recounting his initial contract talks with Casey back in March.

"He said, 'If I've preached that to the players, then I owe it to them to continue this and we'll talk about (contract negotiations) after the season.' I really give him credit for that."

Casey led a young Raptors team to a remarkable and unexpected season that included a franchise-record 48 wins, an Atlantic Division title, and the No. 3 seed in the playoffs. Toronto pushed the vastly experienced Brooklyn Nets to seven games in the opening round, losing Game 7 by just a point.

Casey said he drew up his "I'm all in" pledge right after the February all-star break. In their next game, the Raptors recorded a big 103-93 win at Washington.

"(It was about) committing to the process. Leaving their egos at the door," said Casey, who said he might have the contract framed. "Each player dedicated themselves, gave themselves to the season, and also as far as I'm concerned to the future. Because this year was just a start of what we want to grow and develop with Masai as our leader and also the guys that are coming back here."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Staying the course

General manager Masai Ujiri is not about to make any grand splashes this summer so his team can make another seismic jump up the standings.

- "To me, there is not going to be any crazy decisions, there is no quick fix," he said at the news conference to announce the three-year contract for coach Dwane Casey. "We are a growing team and we're going to grow gradually."

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Reds manager agonizes over star's potential absence

Soccer. Nelsen supports Defoe playing for England in World Cup even though it would hurt TFC

Jermain Defoe is waiting to find out if he will play for England at the World Cup next month in Brazil.
RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Understandably, Ryan Nelsen is torn about Jermain Defoe and the World Cup.

Talk to the Toronto FC manager and he lists off the reasons why his star striker should go to Brazil. But he better than anyone knows that England's gain would be his loss.

"Look, for Toronto FC I'd love him to stay obviously, because he's a quality player," said Nelsen, who captained New Zealand at the 2010 World Cup. "But for Jermain, if I was the England manager, I probably would pick him. Because you know what you're going to get with him — you absolutely know what you're going to get with him."

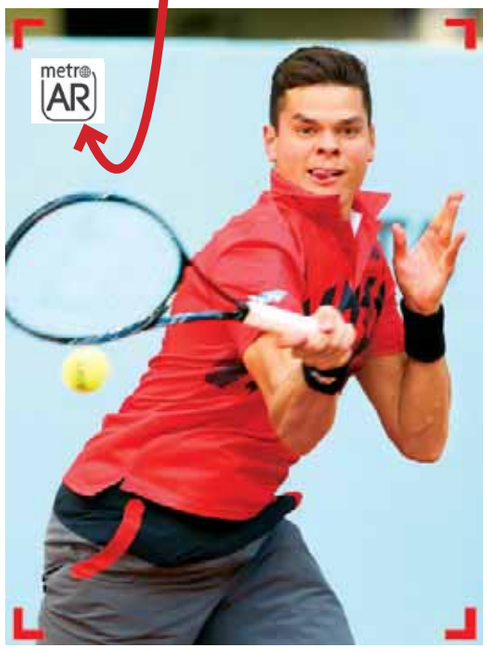
Defoe, who played at the 2010 World Cup, offers England experience and a scoring touch off the bench. He has potted goals everywhere he has played — including 19 in 55 appearances for his country.

The 31-year-old striker says he is in the dark, waiting for the phone to ring.

"It's down to the manager," said Defoe, referring to England boss Roy Hodgson. "He picks the squad.

"I'm sure he knows what every player can do. And even before he was the England manager, he probably knew all the players anyway. So I'm sure that the manager knows his squad. And he probably knew his squad a long time ago — maybe just one or two additions that you're not sure about." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ever notice tennis players make funny faces as they hit the ball? Scan the image with the Metro News app to see a collection from Tuesday's action at the Madrid Open.



Raonic revved up in Madrid

Milos Raonic plays a forehand against France's Jeremy Chardy in their second-round match of the Madrid Open on Tuesday. Raonic won his opening match 6-3, 6-3 in just over an hour. Raonic, from Thornhill, fired 11 aces and did not commit a double-fault.
CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY IMAGES

NHL playoffs

Habs seize 2-1 series lead

P.K. Subban, Dale Weise and Lars Eller each had a goal and an assist and Carey Price made 26 saves as the Montreal Canadiens downed the Boston Bruins 4-2 on Tuesday night to take the lead in their NHL Eastern Conference semi-final playoff series.

Montreal leads the best-of-seven series 2-1 with Game 4 slated for Thursday night at the Bell Centre.

Tomas Plekanec also scored for Montreal, which was outplayed for long stretches but made the most of quick-strike attacks.

Patrice Bergeron and Andrej Meszaros scored for the Bruins, who outshot Montreal 28-26.

For the third straight game in the series, the Canadiens held a 3-1 lead in the third period but, for the first time, didn't let it completely slip away.

Tuukka Rask stopped 22 shots for Boston.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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2015 Subaru WRX STI

- **Type.** Four-door, all-wheel drive compact sedan
- **Engines (hp).** 2.5-litre DOHC horizontally opposed four-cylinder, turbocharged (305)
- **Transmissions.** Six-speed manual
- **Base price (incl. destination).** $40,000

Market position

The STI exists in an ultra-exclusive rally-race niche bracket where the only direct competitor is the Mitsubishi Evolution. And that model's upcoming retirement leaves only hot hatchbacks to compete against.

Points

- Redesign results in the most attractive STI yet
- No change in base engine, but with 305 horses there's no urgent need for any improvement
- Six-speed manual is the only transmission. Perhaps it's time for an automated manual option
- No more Mitsubishi Evo after 2014 is sad news for fans of this genre, but give the STI free reign

The STI's rear wing is an iconic badge of honour for any Subie fan.

Safety

Front airbags; side-impact airbags; side-curtain airbags; driver's knee airbag, anti-lock brakes; traction control; stability control.

A ride on Subaru's wilder side

Review. With beefed-up suspension components, this rally-racer-inspired model means business

MALCOLM GUNN
wheelbasemedia.com

The WRX STI's continued existence confirms that Subaru's somewhat conservative image is at least partly a myth.

The rally-racer-inspired model is an integral member of the automaker's performance lineup that includes the lower-echelon WRX and the BRZ sport coupe.

The redesigned sedan is more stylish, punctuated by the new grille, a hood with functional scoop, and flared fenders that integrate more smoothly with the rest of the body. The WRX STI and its tamer WRX sibling will no longer also be offered as hatchbacks.

Of course the STI still has an available rear wing that doesn't serve any real purpose in everyday driving, but it's an iconic badge of honour for any Subie enthusiast and provides some necessary downforce for owners who occasionally venture forth on the racetrack.

The new model is only slightly longer and wider than the previous version and adds three centimetres between the front and rear wheels and five more centimetres of rear-seat legroom. The car weighs about five kilograms less than before.

Subaru has focused on handling and agility improvements for the STI with a stiffer chassis and faster-acting power steering. As well, the suspension components and the Brembo-brand brakes have been beefed up.

Left untouched is the STI's turbocharged 2.5-litre four-cylinder engine that makes 305 horsepower and 290 pound-feet of torque. Fuel consumption, at 12.3 l/100 km in the city and 8.6 on the highway, is slightly better than before.

Compare

1 Mitsubishi Evolution
Base price: $43,600
Fast, but dated Lancer-based rally machine will sadly be missed.

2 Nissan Juke Nismo RS
Base price: $30,000
Fun and funky small hatch is plenty peppy with 215 horses to play with.

3 Mini Paceman JCW
Base price: $41,200
Sporty all-wheel drive mode looks good and puts out 207 horsepower.

DRIVE

Pennzoil shakes up the engine oil industry

Platinum. Formulated from natural gas, new high-end oil is cited as the best out there for keeping engine innards clean

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Pennzoil is now formulating engine oil from natural gas. In a statement, Pennzoil referred to its new Platinum line as, "the first major development in motor oil in more than 40 years."

Seems a bit boastful, don't you think?

But there is definitely a paradigm-shifting element to making engine oil from natural gas.

When you make engine oil from crude, you start with a fairly dirty substance and clean it up as much as possible. It's called "crude" for a reason. It's filthier than reality TV, messier than a home zoo, and has to be extensively "refined" before it's invited anywhere.

With Pennzoil Platinum it's the other way around. It starts with an incredibly clean base stock. The base stock is gathered from natural gas through a "gas-to-liquid" process not dissimilar to collecting a very pure form of water from vapour or steam.

That base stock is colourless, even "crystal clear" according to Pennzoil. Then the additives go in, and then it takes on that golden hue, common to all clean engine oil, and near and dear to the heart of everyone who takes satisfaction in changing their engine oil in the driveway.

Interestingly, Pennzoil and its parent company Shell are not getting this natural-gas-sourced product from natural-gas-rich North America.

It comes from Pearl GTL (Gas to Liquids), the world's largest gas-to-liquid plant, which is located in Ras Laffan, Qatar. A partnership between Shell and Qatar Petroleum, the plant can produce 30,000 barrels of base oil per day.

Pennzoil calls its Platinum line "the first major development in motor oil in more than 40 years." ISTOCK

From there the base oils enter Shell's global lubricants blending plant network to produce the finished products.

Serving North American customers in that regard is Shell's massive lubricant blending and storage facility in Houston, Texas.

The two Pennzoil oils formulated with the PurePlus base stocks, Platinum and Ultra Platinum, are definitely high-end products; in fact, they are at the top end of Pennzoil's food chain.

Pennzoil is obviously touting the oil's cleanliness; With so few impurities, it is cited as the best oil out there to keep your pistons and other engines innards as clean as possible.

Maybe not clean enough to eat on, but clean for an engine. As a high-end synthetic it will undoubtedly also be good at other things, like fuel efficiency, long drain intervals, wear protection, and extreme temperature performance.

Shell said it has been contemplating and working on natural gas to liquid technologies since the 1970s.

So far Shell is the only known manufacturer to have produced base oil from natural gas on a commercial scale. Will others follow?

Quoted

"The base stock is gathered from natural gas; through a 'gas-to-liquid' process not dissimilar to collecting a very pure form of water from vapour or steam."

Mike Goetz, columnist

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Smartphone integration tops drivers' wish lists

In-cabin smartphone, infotainment and apps access are top of drivers' wish lists when it comes to the features they want in their next car.

That is according to the 15,171 vehicle owners who took part in the J.D. Power 2014 U.S. Automotive Emerging Technologies Study.

Published this week, the survey sets out to find the existing and upcoming technologies that most excite the nation's drivers and which ones they'd be most willing to pay extra to have.

Before cost enters the equation, the most popular features are all about smartphone connectivity — 83 per cent want wireless connectivity systems for pairing phones and tablets with the car, while 78 per cent are most excited and interested in a device/application link, a feature that allows drivers to control a handset and access its apps via a vehicle's standard equipment, such as a dashboard-mounted touchscreen display.

Yet, when it comes to cost, 60 per cent of respondents feel being able to wirelessly connect a phone to a car should be a standard feature. But when it comes to app integration, buyers are prepared to go the extra mile — 79 per cent said they'd be willing to pay a $250 premium for the feature, dropping to 55 per cent if the price were $300 or more.

The most popular features drivers want in their next car are all about smartphone connectivity. AFP

A number of car companies, most notably Ford, have developed their own systems for offering this functionality, but in recent months the two big smartphone operating systems — Apple's iOS and Google's Android — have also been getting in on the act. Apple recently unveiled CarPlay, a system that mirrors an iPhone's screen and a number of its core apps to the dashboard screen in a way that can be safely accessed by touch or via voice command.

Right at the other end of the scale, the technology that generates the least interest and excitement is gesture control. Drivers were suspicious of the concept of being able to wave or move a hand in order to access functions like sat-nav or the stereo. AFP

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The new Ford F-150 will be the first production pickup truck to use LED headlights. JIL MCINTOSH

Ford F-150 serves up futuristic twist on headlights

Light-emitting diodes.
New LED lights not only energy-efficient but also long-lasting

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

Back when cars were first developed, they used gas lanterns, or sometimes even candles, to light their way along dark roads. Today's vehicles need bright headlights so drivers can see and be seen, but these lamps also need to be long-lasting and energy-efficient.

When Ford launches its all-new F-150 later this year, it will be the first production pickup truck to use LED headlights, one of the newest developments in headlight technology. The name is short for light-emitting diodes.

"It is creating light through electronic means," says Mahendra Dassanayake, senior technical leader for opto-electronics at Ford. "You can customize it to help with vision."

Incandescent and halogen headlights contain a filament that gets hot enough to emit light. High-intensity discharge (HID) headlights, also called xenon lights, use an electrical arc between two tungsten electrodes to heat up vapour inside the lamp, creating light.

LED lights use semiconductor chips to produce light. On Ford's lamps, the chips emit blue light, which is filtered through a phosphor material to make it appear white. A unique lens, cut with 16 optical surfaces and 80 facets, magnifies the light and spreads it evenly, so only one LED is required for each lamp.

The semiconductor chips heat up to about 50 degrees Celsius, so they're used with an integrated heat sink, a channelled holder that dissipates heat. The lens itself doesn't heat up, unlike halogen or HID headlights, which get hot. In a halogen lamp, the bulb itself gets as hot as 600 degrees Celsius, Dassanayake says.

Because the lamps stay cool, they won't melt snow that accumulates when driving in winter. Ford is working on special surface coatings that should help to reduce any buildup.

It's also important for headlamps to use as little power as possible, since the electricity is ultimately generated by the engine, and any power draw decreases fuel economy. The LED lamps are more than 50 to 60 per cent more energy-efficient than halogen lamps, and about 30 per cent more than HID headlamps. "It will improve as time goes on," Dassanayake says. "This is technology at its basic inception."

The new lamps are also more robust than other types, which is especially important in a pickup truck. Excessive vibration from off-road bumps or rough roads can shorten the lifespan of the filament in an incandescent or halogen bulb, but isn't an issue in an LED lamp, which doesn't use a filament. "I think LED is going to be the future of lighting," Dassanayake says.

All about LEDs

- LED headlamps are relatively expensive, but they're expected to last more than five times longer than halogen headlamps.
- LED lights are already used extensively in vehicles, including in taillights and interior lighting.
- The F-150's headlamps also include a thin LED tube that outlines the lamp for a unique signature appearance.

Quoted

"I think LED is going to be the future of lighting."
Mahendra Dassanayake, senior technical leader for opto-electrics at Ford

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RISE OF THE ROBOTS

In 1962, General Motors put the first robots online to perform spot welding. Today the presence of robots on factory floors has grown to the point of almost full 'lights out' automation in some factories

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Robots do the heavy lifting that people cannot. COURTESY FANUC AMERICA CORP

Neil Dueweke still remembers the day these cold and emotionless invaders quietly overran factory floors and callously changed the course of automotive history.

These tireless workers never left their post, never called in sick, never took vacation and never once gossiped or griped about long hours or no lunch break.

With more than 25 years in the robotics business, Dueweke has been on the front lines while this technological influx has steadily made car building as safe, efficient and dependable as it ever has been.

"Robotics has changed dramatically since I've been in it," said Dueweke, body structure general manager of FANUC America Corp., a leading international industrial robotics supplier. "And the business continues to change seemingly every day."

From the simplistic single-arm robots of the 1980s used for menial tasks such as spot welding, to today's modern machines that can carry entire truck bodies and handle almost any manufacturing chore, robotics are becoming more the rule than the exception in vehicle construction.

Robotics in automotive construction continues to evolve, but the science is nothing new. Since 1962 when General Motors put the first robots online to perform spot welding and die-casting, the presence of robotics on factory floors has grown to the point of almost full "lights out" automation in some factories, where cars can be built in the dark.

And while robotic-reliant plants obviously don't help the human unemployment rate, these precise machines dramatically reduce on-the-job injuries and, Dueweke believes, improve overall morale within the workplace.

And as far as job loss? "The argument about the robots taking jobs away from people is rather in the past," said Dueweke, stressing that while the assembly line workforce may be shrinking some, maintenance and other specialized job opportunities are growing.

In addition to improved worker safety and unmatched reliability, the shrinking prices and logistical advantages of a robotic-based facility are driving auto builders more and more to automated-plant construction. Popularity and mass production of robotics have helped drive down the price of these machines by about two-thirds since the boom of the automation industry 20 or 25 years ago.

Dueweke said that anywhere from 350 to 700 robots are installed during the typical construction of a "green field" plant. A standard low-end robot used for simple assembly tasks such as spot welding or tire installation costs about $20,000 US, while the most sophisticated painting or lift-and-place machines cost $100,000 US or more.

"Price is one of the key enablers," Dueweke said. "It's a lower cost right now to put up a robotized plant versus what was done 30 or 40 years ago."

International Federation of Robotics general secretary Gudren Litzenberger agrees, saying that the installation of robotics in manufacturing plants increases by about five per cent every year.

Japan easily carries the highest international rate of robotic equipment in the auto industry with nearly 2,000 robots for every 10,000 human employees. The U.S. ranks fourth with about 1,200 robots for every 10,000 employees. And Litzenberger expects the ratio to continually close.

"The industry would not have been able to meet the increasing demand of cars without robots," she said. "Especially with more varieties of models and improved quality."

Automotive robotics are found in three areas: the body shop where the sheet metal is attached and the frame is assembled; the paint shop where the vehicles are sealed and painted; and in general assembly when the components are attached and construction is completed.

Robots in the body and paint shops have become relatively commonplace because of the precision and consistency they provide, leaving general assembly as the area for the greatest potential autonomy growth.

"I would say in another 15 years you're going to see some significant progress in general assembly in terms of automating and changing the way vehicles are final-assembled," Dueweke said. "General assembly is the Holy Grail; that's part of the next frontier for robotics in automotive."

And the perfect climate for another automated invasion.

Quoted

"The argument about the robots taking jobs away from people is in the past."

Neil Dueweke, body structure general manager of FANUC America Corp.

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He understands Problems & Gives Right Guidence
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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Keep your eyes and ears open today because if you don't you may miss out on an opportunity to have fun. With Mercury moving strongly in your favour, your mind will be sharp and strong, giving you a major advantage over your rivals.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You must be positive today. Both in your personal life and at work there is a lot at stake and you need to know what you want — and have the courage to reach out and take it.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Start believing that you have what it takes to make a difference. Now that Mercury, your ruler, is moving into your sign, the doubts of the past few weeks will be swept away.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
The things you fear the most are the things from which you have least to fear. Seep that into your subconscious. The planets indicate nothing out there in the world can hurt you.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
The message of the stars is you must allow friends and family members to make more decisions for themselves. Over the past few weeks you have insisted on taking the lead. It's time to give others a chance.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You won't lack for opportunities today but don't just throw yourself at the first one that comes along. Identify what it is you most want to accomplish and wait for the right offer.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You may have been too fixed in your opinions of late but with mind planet Mercury moving in your favour, you will get the chance to review your beliefs and adjust them to fit reality.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Over the next two or three days you will find it easier to come to grips with a financial matter that has been keeping you awake at night. Once you find the real problem, you will also find the courage to deal with it.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Others don't have to lose out just so that you can win. Your task today is to find creative ways in which to further your own ambitions while helping others get what they need.

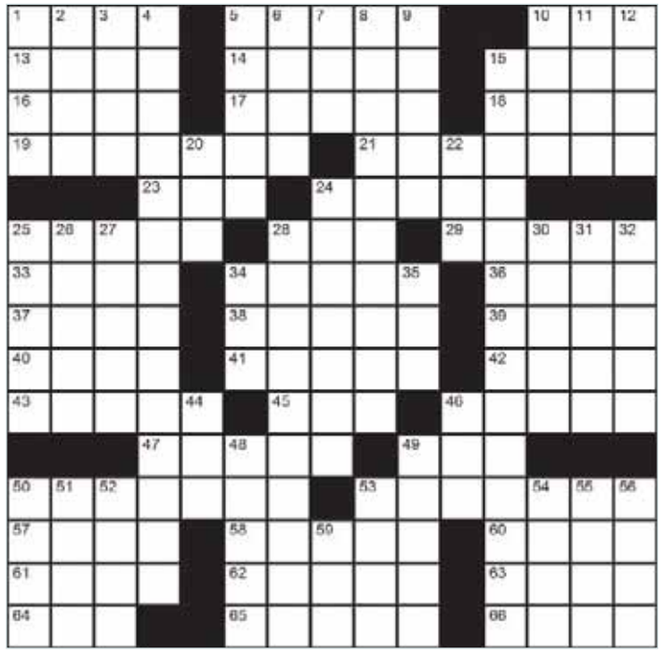
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You have changed so often in recent weeks that you may no longer be sure which way is up, but that's OK. On the work front at least you will know without a doubt what needs to be done next. So do it.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Now that Mercury, planet of the mind, is moving into your fellow Air sign of Gemini the mental turmoil of the past few weeks will fade away. You can make things easier for yourself by not worrying so much.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You may have to give up something that means a lot to you but you won't mind too much. You will be happier still if people just leave you alone for a while. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

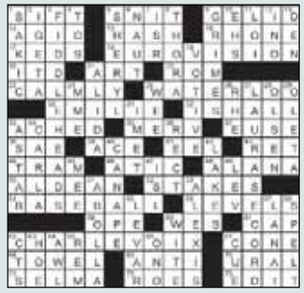
See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. ___ (Answer to "Where's Vancouver?")
5. Popular cartoon-like icon in digital communication
10. Dijon's country, to the IOC
13. "That hurts!"
14. Fruit type
15. Vancouver band, __ The Whale
16. Insect nests
17. Gradual loudness increase in music, for short
18. Purplish
19. Toronto: Yonge Street splits this Avenue into East and West
21. "The Newlywed Game" host Bob
23. "Yuck!"
24. Tune line
25. "__ __ Replay" by Rihanna
28. "Hee __"
29. "Disaster __" on HGTV Canada
33. Over-fed = ___ lot
34. Actress Debi
36. Clark Gable film setting
37. Seeded
38. Hawaiian Crow
39. 'Gen' finisher (Basic)
40. Baby branch
41. 'The King', in Spanish: 2 wds.
42. Lounge around
43. Building extension
45. 'Vigor' suffix
46. Quebec, 'La __ Province'
47. Norwegian kings
49. Zoologist's foot
50. "When I'm with You" Canadian band
53. Receive warmly
57. Ping-__
58. Western flick
60. Ancient author
61. House's gutter locale
62. Arctic boat
63. Peel
64. Sarcastic
65. Onion kins
66. Dash

Down
1. Particles
2. Night: French
3. Alphabet sequence
4. Coast Salish actor (b.1899 - d.1981) from North Vancouver who co-starred with Clint Eastwood in #8-Down: 3 wds.
5. Host an event
6. Seas: French
7. Flamenco exclamation!
8. "The Outlaw __ __" (1976)
9. Obtain
10. Human/goat forest deity
11. Canadian star Mr. Moranis
12. Tangy quaffs
15. NASA's Kepler: 2 wds.
20. Whopper
22. Tender
24. Statue of Liberty poet, Emma __ (b.1849 - d.1887)
25. Macaroni
26. "Liquid Dreams" TV-created band
27. ___ stock (Recently-arrived goods)
28. Toronto attraction, Hockey __ __ __
30. Festive song
31. Canadian singer/pianist Diana
32. Room: French
34. Ms. West
35. Jamie Foxx movie
44. Gladiator's 41
46. "The Fresh Prince of __-Air"
48. Run __ of (Conflict)
49. Benefits
50. Disgorge
51. Rime
52. Greenly admire
53. Tired
54. Shape sort
55. Ms. Sorvino
56. Paradise
59. Affiliation

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

	1	6	3			8		
	9			4		2		
	4		7		6			
			4				7	
3			5		7			6
	5				8			
			2		9		8	
		5		3			9	
		4			5	7	1	

Yesterday's Sudoku

2	4	1	3	9	7	6	8	5
6	8	7	1	4	5	9	2	3
3	9	5	8	6	2	4	1	7
1	2	6	9	5	3	7	4	8
4	3	9	7	2	8	1	5	6
5	7	8	6	1	4	2	3	9
7	1	2	5	3	6	8	9	4
9	6	3	4	8	1	5	7	2
8	5	4	2	7	9	3	6	1

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Thursday 14°/11° Variable
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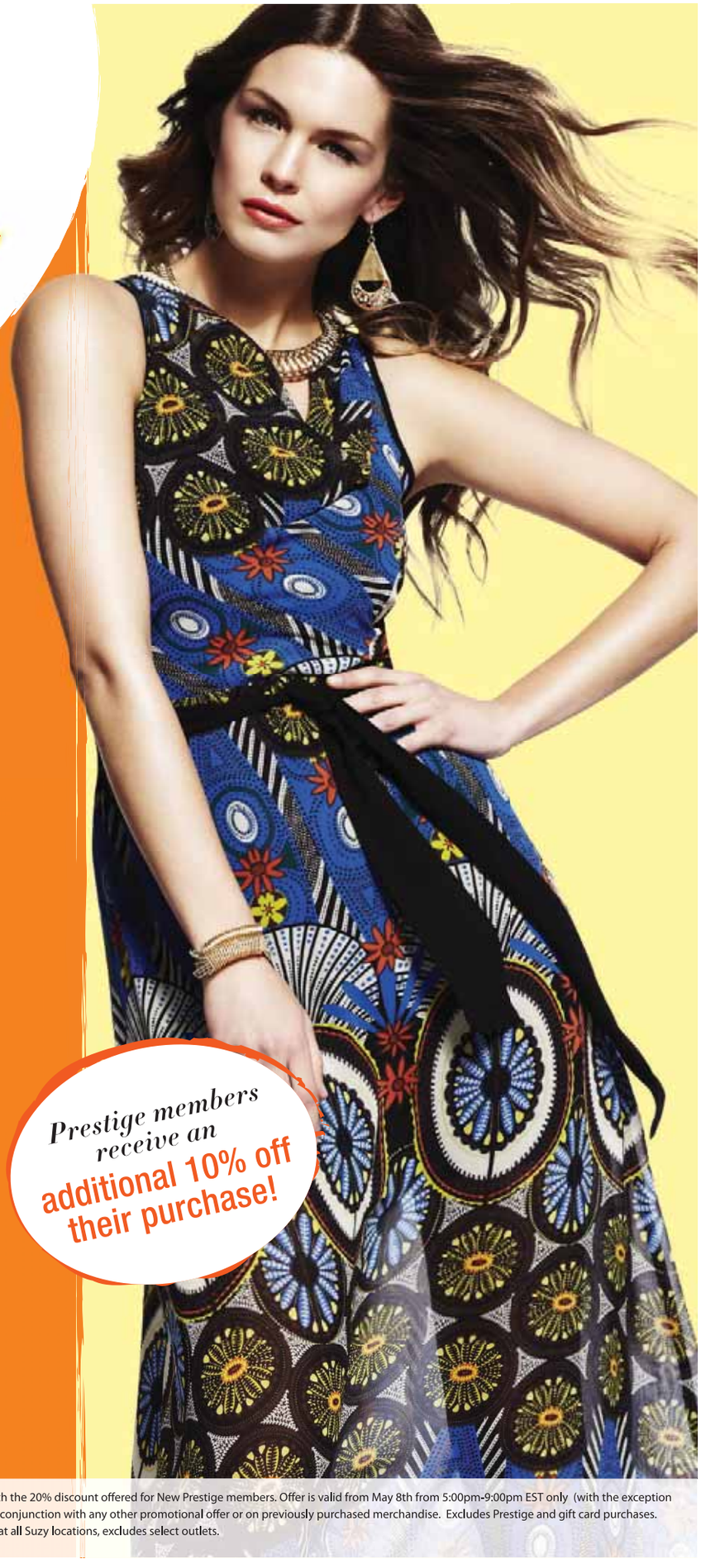

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5PM-9PM

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*Regular priced merchandise.

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*Offer cannot be used in conjunction with the 20% discount offered for New Prestige members. Offer is valid from May 8th from 5:00pm-9:00pm EST only (with the exception of select stores). Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other promotional offer or on previously purchased merchandise. Excludes Prestige and gift card purchases. Other restrictions may apply. Offer valid at all Suzy locations, excludes select outlets.

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UP TO **0%** FINANCING **84** MONTHS

~~OR~~ PLUS

CASH BONUS UP TO **$4,000**§

OFFER ENDS JUNE 2ND

Rio4 SX with Navigation shown^
Cash purchase price $22,714
hwy / city 100km^: 5.3L/7.3L

Forte SX shown^
Cash purchase price $26,814
hwy / city 100km^: 5.3L/8.0L

Optima SX Turbo AT shown^
Cash purchase price $32,714
hwy / city 100km^: 5.7L/8.9L

2014 RIO LX MT

$12,596∞

~~OR~~ PLUS

UP TO **0%** FINANCING **84** MONTHS

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and **$2,918 IN CASH BONUS§**. Offer based on 2014 Rio LX MT with a purchase price of **$15,514.** Excludes HST.

STANDARD FEATURES

- Steering Wheel Audio Controls
- Aux & USB Input Ports
- 6-Speed Manual

2014 FORTE LX MT

$14,596∞

~~OR~~ PLUS

UP TO **0%** FINANCING **84** MONTHS

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and **$2,918 IN CASH BONUS§**. Offer based on 2014 Forte LX MT with a purchase price of **$17,514.** Excludes HST.

STANDARD FEATURES

- Bluetooth Connectivity°
- Steering Wheel Audio Controls
- 6-Speed Manual

2014 OPTIMA LX AT

$22,314∞

~~OR~~ PLUS

UP TO **0%** FINANCING **84** MONTHS

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and **$4,000 IN CASH BONUS§**. Offer based on 2014 Optima LX AT with a purchase price of **$26,314.** Excludes HST.

STANDARD FEATURES

- Power Driver's Seat
- Air Conditioning
- AT6 6-Speed Automatic

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The Power to Surprise

Offer(s) available on select new 2014 models through participating dealers to qualified retail customers who take delivery by June 2, 2014. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers are subject to change without notice. All pricing includes delivery and destination fees up to $1,665, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax, other taxes, environmental fee, and $100 A/C charge (where applicable). Excludes licensing, registration, insurance, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399), fuel-fill charges up to $100, and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Other lease and financing options also available. 0% financing offer for up to 84 months available O.A.C to qualified retail customer, on approved credit for the new 2014 Forte LX MT (F0541E)/2014 Optima LX AT (OP742E)/2014 Rio LX MT (R0541E) with a selling price of $14,596/$22,314/$12,596 and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,485, tire tax of $15, A/C charge ($100 where applicable) and a cash bonus of $2,918/$4,000/$2,918. Bi-weekly payments of $80/$123/$69 for 84 months with $0 down payment. Credit fees of $0. Total obligation is $14,596/$22,314/$12,596. See retailer for complete details. ∞Cash purchase price for the new 2014 Forte LX MT (F0541E)/2014 Optima LX AT (OP742E)/2014 Rio LX MT (R0541E) is $14,596/$22,314/$12,596 and includes a cash bonus of $2,918/$4,000/$2,918 (which is deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes). Retailer may sell for less. §Cash Bonus amounts are offered on select 2014 and 2015 models and are deducted from the negotiated purchase/lease price before taxes. Offer ends June 2, 2014. See your dealer for complete details. ^Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2014 Forte SX (F0748E)/2014 Optima SX Turbo AT (OP748E)/2014 Rio4 SX with Navigation (R0749E) is $26,395/$34,795/$22,295. ^Highway/city fuel consumption is based on the 2014 Rio LX+ ECO (A/T)/2014 Forte 1.8L MPI 4-cyl (M/T)/2014 Optima 2.4L GDI (A/T). These updated estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. °The Bluetooth® wordmark and logo are registered trademarks and are owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Kia is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.